

THE
NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

TRAINING FOR WORK.

IN our last number we hinted at our intention of furnishing a short series of papers, having for their object the direction of individuals anxious to take advantage of that moral influence which the assembling and the proceedings of the Anti-state-church Conference have succeeded in creating. We now address ourselves to the fulfilment of this promise; and, in doing so, we most emphatically disclaim any design, or even wish, to occupy the chair of the dictator. We have no novelty to give to the world. We have discovered no royal road to success. We pretend to have established no claim to speak "as having authority." But, as fellow-labourers in that great enterprise which the Conference has set on foot, and having the end in view most earnestly at heart, we shall presume, if that can be called presumption which is a duty incumbent upon every friend of the cause, to throw out such suggestions as may appear worth consideration, leaving our readers to act upon or to reject them, just as their own calm judgment may determine.

It might seem a work of supererogation to counsel the members of the late Conference to start with a resolution to make themselves masters of the question in its whole extent, a full knowledge of which it will be their aim to communicate to others. But is it so? Without disparaging in the least either the intelligence or the earnestness of the men who composed that assembly—without implying that they have taken upon themselves a responsibility the weight of which they but inadequately appreciate, or that they have solemnly pronounced condemnation on a system, the evils of which they have but feebly estimated—recognising, as we do, the fact, that the broad principles involved in this controversy were thoroughly understood, and that their various practical bearings were clearly discerned, by all the delegates—we yet believe that, preparatory to active and persevering exertion, a further course of self-instruction and discipline will be eminently useful. We make no exceptions. We are confident that they who see furthest, and who feel most deeply, will be amongst the first to admit the truth of the remark. And should any take exceptions to it, we cannot but think that the observations which follow may do something towards impressing them with a sense of its importance.

We should urge a careful, studious, and strictly conscientious review of the whole question, for the beneficial influence it would have upon the delegates themselves. In a matter of such stupendous magnitude, it can never be aniss to have the decisions of our judgment confirmed. The most devoted believer in the Christian faith will find the advantage of passing occasionally under notice, the whole array of the evidence by which its divinity is sustained. The most enthusiastic advocate of Christian willinghood will, in like manner, lose nothing, but gain rather, by retracing the steps by which he has been conducted to his present conclusions. He may acquire nothing new. The very same trains of reasoning, and the same classes of fact, which gradually contributed in days gone by to the determination of his mind, may have to be recalled. But the process, although it may engrave nothing fresh upon his understanding, may yet serve to remove the moss and rubbish with which time has overlaid and half-obliterated old impressions, and to render those impressions dis-

ting and legible. This, however, is the smallest of the advantages to be secured. It is not so much the understanding, as the conscience and the heart, which may be expected to profit from the course of self-training we suggest. That which we are anxious to bring about is, that all persons interested in this question should set themselves with steady resolution to gaze upon the state-church system, until their souls are filled with a sense of its appalling evils—until those deeper emotions which lie beneath the surface are stirred into activity, and the whole inner man becomes pervaded with sentiments corresponding with the object upon which attention is fastened. By this means, resolution may be expected to rise to the full height of the occasion which demands it—and all the feelings which must go to form and to sustain it, will, by frequent exercise, acquire breadth and fullness—a muscular and brawny energy, to which labour and self-sacrifice will be both easy and pleasant.

It must be borne in mind, moreover, that the information and the argument which have sufficed to settle our own judgment, may fall very far short of what is demanded by others. Every man who enters with seriousness upon this new movement, must regard himself as a missionary in his own sphere, and must, by all the methods which lie within the range of his own aptitude, preach the truths which he has himself received. In many instances, this will be a novel vocation, calling for a greater familiarity with the principles at issue, and a more copious magazine of facts and illustrations, than heretofore have been regarded as requisite. And whatever may be the circle within which a man designs to put forth his exertions—however circumscribed—he will speedily discover that he has need of all the resources within the reach of his own mind, and of all the promptitude in the application of them, which nothing but his being thoroughly conversant with the subject can ensure to him. It would be well, therefore, to neglect no sources of knowledge on this question, to which access can be had. Every agent in a great cause should be concerned to qualify himself for any post in which hereafter, he may be placed.

Let it not be imagined, however, that we advise an abstinence from all active effort meanwhile. On the contrary, we believe that in this, as well as every other department of mental effort, he is most likely to succeed, who unites exertion with study, and in whose practice doing and thinking go hand in hand. All that we wish to impress upon the minds of our readers is, that thinking is not superfluous—steady, continued, resolute, progressive thinking—that the first step to be taken in promoting the ultimate object at which we aim, is a step to self-improvement. Each must begin with himself. As a man contemplating a long and tedious journey first looks to his equipments, so in looking forward to a conflict for the emancipation of the church, it seems appropriate to set out with a careful inspection of our weapons. The athlete at the Olympic games went through a course of vigorous training. We have stepped forward to wrestle a throw with state churches—let us be careful to brace ourselves up for the encounter.

PARLIAMENTARY GRANTS FOR STATE CHURCH PURPOSES.

WE fear that much ignorance prevails even among the best-informed and most earnest dissenters, as to the extent to which the resources of the state are annually applied by parliament, in pensioning the various classes of religionists, and in nurturing ecclesiastical establishments throughout the British empire. There seems to be a very general impression that, except in the cases of the Irish and English *regium donum*, the House of Commons has almost ceased to apply the public money to ecclesiastical purposes. Hence has arisen the comforting reflection that, as dissenters are unmolested, and as all schemes for church extension have been consigned to oblivion, it is their policy to maintain a strictly defensive position, and to leave ecclesiastical establishments to work out that self-destruction which sooner or later overtakes all institutions based on injustice.

While the friends of the voluntary principle have been thus quieting all unnecessary alarm with this delusion, the legislature has been most assiduous in taking advantage of it. Every suitable opportunity has been seized upon to extend and

strengthen the influence of the state over the various ecclesiastical bodies throughout the empire. While we have been lulling ourselves into fancied security, our rulers have been fastening the millstone of a church establishment around the rising institutions of our colonies—have been sowing the poisonous seeds of ecclesiastical domination which will spring up with, and perchance destroy, the spirit of freedom and independence in these embryo empires.

In proof of this position we might draw illustrations from the recent history of India, Jamaica, Australia, and Canada. The latter, however, will suffice on the present occasion. Among the Colonial Estimates voted in the House of Commons on Friday evening last, are the following grants:—

GRANTS TO THE CLERGY IN BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

CANADA:—	
Bishop of Montreal	£1000 0 0
Archdeacon of Quebec	500 0 0
Rector of Quebec	400 0 0
Rector of Quebec for house-rent	90 0 0
Ministry of Trinity Chapel, Quebec	200 0 0
Rector of Montreal	300 0 0
Rector of Three Rivers	200 0 0
Rector of Durham	100 0 0
Rector of Caldwell Manor	100 0 0
Rector of St Armand	100 0 0
Verger of Quebec	30 0 0
Rent of Protestant burial ground	20 18 0
Presbyterian Minister, Montreal	50 0 0
Presbyterian Minister, Argenteuil	100 0 0
Roman Catholic Bishop, Quebec	1000 0 0

£4190 18 6

NOVA SCOTIA:—	
Bishop	£2000 0 0
Archdeacon	300 0 0
Presbyterian Minister	75 0 0
Pension to the President of King's College	400 0 0
Archdeacon of New Brunswick	300 0 0
Archdeacon of Bermuda	200 0 0
Archdeacon of Newfoundland	300 0 0
Roman Catholic Bishop of Newfoundland	75 0 0
To Foreign Missionaries of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Nova Scotia	3412 10 0
Minister at Prince Edward's Island	100 0 0

£7162 10 0

Total £11,353 8 6

In consequence of the death, in 1843, of two missionaries, a saving of £237 10s. has been effected in the sum allowed to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, towards the support of their missionaries in Nova Scotia.

This vote has, it appears, been agreed to *sub silentio* for many years past.

In addition to these grants the tithes of Lower Canada are appropriated by law to the support of the catholic religion; the members of that persuasion forming a large majority in the province. Out of the above grant £10,000 goes to the episcopalians, who, exclusive of the Catholics, form a miserable minority of the remaining population.

We think the above fact is sufficient of itself to expose the unsoundness and impolicy of the *laissez faire* principle as applied by dissenters to church establishments. Here is the naked truth which cannot be gainsayed. The principle of national establishments, spite of recent untoward events, has, on the whole, been greatly extended throughout the British empire during the last few years. Can any dissenter look to our colonial possessions—the germs of future empires—and say that during that period they have not one and all become impregnated with the virus of this pernicious evil? If not, what can be said in support of that indolent policy under which this wide-spread mischief has without opposition been perpetrated?

From the quiet manner in which these votes are passed we may gather another important lesson. Nearly one half of the present electoral body are adherents of voluntarism, and yet this principle has not a single professed representative in the House of Commons. There is no one upon whom dissenters can rely to protest against these violations of religious freedom, still less, boldly to expose and denounce the compulsory principle in matters of religion. Are they likely to convert the legislature to their views, by altogether burking their sentiments? We trust, and believe, that whenever another general election shall occur, it will no longer be said of dissenters that they make less account of their principles than the merest drivelling partisan, but that, impressed with the conviction that ecclesiastical establishments are the greatest political and spiritual evil that afflicts this coun-

try, they are resolved to make it the great and leading question in the exercise of the rights of citizenship.

THE ANTI-STATE-CHURCH CONFERENCE. GREAT MEETING AT LEICESTER.

(Abridged from the *Leicester Mercury*.)

A public meeting, to receive the report of the delegates to the recent Anti-state-church Conference, was held in the New hall, on Tuesday evening last. Shortly after seven o'clock, the hall was crowded with a highly respectable audience, and the platform was occupied by the ministers and leading gentlemen of the various churches favourable to the movement.

Mr JOHN COLLIER, town councillor, moved, and Mr SHARDLOW seconded, that Mr Alderman Cripps take the chair.

The motion having been carried unanimously,

Mr CRIPPS rose, and, after a few preliminary remarks, said—The object for which they had met that evening was to hear the details of the proceedings, and, as he hoped and trusted, to adopt the same sentiments, and concur in the same plan of operations. Let it be borne in mind, that they had not met that evening to complain of any specific grievance, although all must feel with him that there were grievances to be complained of. Those who filled a certain walk in life did not like to be twitted with ignorance, and be excluded from the public foundations of the country; nor could they go into the council chamber, without, in a manner, doing homage to the establishment [hear, hear]. And it was a grievous anomaly, that the property of dissenters should be seized for the support of the established religion of those whom they were led to suppose were the protectors of property. It was not for the removal of these individual grievances that they were met, but it was to strike at the root from which they all sprung; and when that was destroyed, all the rest must fall ["Hear, hear," and cheers]. They were met to affirm the great principle that government had nothing to do, nor ought to have anything to do, in matters of religion. There might be some ready to say that this was a crusade against religion, or, at least, if not against religion, against episcopacy. He was no great lover of episcopacy; but it should be understood that what they proposed was not to set up episcopacy, independency, or, if he might coin a word, baptistcy. They only wished to rescue religion from the trammels of the state, and, after that, desired nothing more, to use a homely proverb, than "a fair field and no favour" ["Hear, hear," and cheers]. The chairman then requested the Rev. J. P. MURSELL to give some account of the Conference.

The Rev. J. P. MURSELL said, it devolved upon him, merely as a matter of business, to introduce the engagements of the evening, and to represent the whole body of delegates sent from this neighbourhood to the Anti-state-church Conference; and after the statement he had to make, addresses would be delivered by gentlemen on the platform. It could scarcely be necessary, in this assembly and in this town, to remind them of the circumstances under which this Conference took its origin. Sir James Graham's Factory bill led to such an organisation amongst dissenters as was sufficient to defeat it; but it had been observed by many earnest dissenters in the kingdom, that there had ever been a sort of relapse after these routings of the body, and it was thought desirable that this feeling should be kept alive.

The best mode of doing this was thought to be by calling together a conference, to deliberate on the best manner of getting rid of the evils which were caused by a state church. The talented editor of the *Nonconformist* took up the idea, and worked upon it with his usual power and ability. Some doubt existed whether his appeal would lead to any practical result, and after waiting for a time, and longing for a movement to take place among the dissenters of London, they began to despair; and then a simple paper was drawn up and signed by the dissenting ministers of Leicester, calling on their brethren in London for some ultimate and practical result. The paper was taken to two or three neighbouring places, and signed by the ministers; and he having to go to Brington, in Northamptonshire, introduced the paper, and asked for the subscriptions of the ministers to the document; almost all of whom signed. Soon after he had to attend an ordination at Crick, in the same county, and there laid the paper before the independent and baptist ministers assembled, by most of whom it was signed. Thus signed it was sent to London, and, through the medium of the *Patriot* and *Nonconformist*, introduced to the public. Much time was allowed to pass away, but very little attention being paid to the midland counties' gentlemen by the London ministers, it was determined to hold a meeting to give effect to the document, and Dr Cox (for whose labours they were all deeply indebted), Mr E. Miall, and other friends, met in the Town hall of Leicester, when it was resolved that a conference should be convened in London as early as possible. Gentlemen set to work in right earnest, and it was resolved that delegates should be received by the executive committee. He was appointed one of the executive committee, and went up on the Thursday to take some part of the labour, and was astonished to find that, instead of two or three hundred, there had already been received the names of upwards of six hundred delegates, double the number that had been expected. But numbers were not all; that Conference comprised some of the best, the ablest, and the most eloquent and influential men in the ranks of dissent. There came from the other side of the Tweed, some of the noblest and best of men, who represented all the dissenters of their country, without a single exception, that they were aware of. There came from the principality men of massive bulk and strange language; and there were present some of the best men of Ireland. From various parts of England, men of all denominations and opinions presented themselves. In that assembly they had men of more talent than ever were assembled in the same cause; and, if they would allow him to make use of an Irish proverb, there were many there who were not present—

many whose hearts were with them, but who, from various circumstances, could not attend. Dr Cox would tell them that there were present many men whose names would demand their highest esteem; that there were present the leading men of dissenting principles; and that that press which some might despise, but which would show its power through the length and breadth of the land, was also present. As had been before stated in the *Nonconformist*, a spirit of earnestness pervaded the whole assembly; and it did honour to men who felt that they could not do homage to principle in a better way. Mr M. went through the preliminary proceedings of the Conference, and said there was no want of unanimity and of temper; and when he told them that a paper was prepared by Dr Wardlaw, one by Dr Young, and taken up by Mr Massey, and one by Mr Miall, they would see that those who attended the Conference had a very great treat. The document of the Conference was about to appear, and he wished to warn persons against drawing any inference against the Conference, until they had perused that document. After drawing up a system of organisation, the Conference broke up. There would be a council of five hundred persons chosen, who would select an executive committee, which, with the Council, had the power to call together another conference, if it was found desirable; or if they did not, one would be held after the lapse of three years. This great movement commenced in this simple, yet majestic manner [hear]. He never attended a meeting more pregnant with the elements of progress, nor one in which determined men had set themselves more earnestly to work out their object [hear]. Let it be borne in mind that this movement was not taken up as a dry political theory, but as a matter of religion; and that it was the opinion of the Conference that the union of the church of England with the state, instead of advancing the cause of religion, really retarded its progress [hear]. They founded this opinion, not for want of charity, but from conscientious motives, and a desire that religion should be pure; and so long as he had a tongue to speak, a hand to write, and a heart to beat, that tongue, and that hand, and that heart should be devoted to the cause of the Anti-state-church Conference [cheers].

Mr J. GREEN proposed the first resolution. In the course of a long and able speech he said:—

It was of great importance that the nonconforming body should determine and define their own principles. After again protesting against the interference of the state with religion, Mr G. said, when in London he had seen a letter to Dr Cox, endeavouring to dissuade him from having anything to do with the Conference, as neither its enemies nor friends could tell what was meant by the separation of church and state. It was high time they did know what it was the professed purpose of the Conference to accomplish. It was not a Goth and Vandal crusade against the buildings of the establishment. They would willingly give those, with all their antiquity, to the episcopalians, as a stock-in-trade to begin with. Much less did they intend to interfere with the private opinions of individuals; nor would they take upon themselves to say what should be done with the emoluments of the church; when the government should be brought to look upon the subject as an interference in a domain which was not their own, let them settle that question. As peaceful subjects they looked to the government for protection, but did not acknowledge its right to interfere with their religion. If any one considered it the duty of the government to provide religious instruction for the people, the government of Mahomet, and of every form of heathenism and error, might plead the same authority [hear, hear]. If it was good in one instance, it became a duty in all governments to establish every form of religion and superstition on the face of the earth. If it was said it should be so in this country because it was a Christian country, who was to decide where the truth lay?

He concluded by proposing:—

"That this meeting desires to record its earnest conviction that the establishment of Christianity in any form by the civil power, is alike injurious to both, and that it is the bounden duty of dissenters to discountenance it in every way, and to seek, by all suitable means, the dissolution of that close and corrupt alliance of things sacred and things secular, which distinguishes the ecclesiastical establishment of this country. Entertaining these sentiments, the meeting considers the convening of the Anti-state-church Conference in London, an occasion for the warmest congratulation to the nonconformists of Great Britain and Ireland, and to the friends of religious liberty."

The Rev. T. STEVENSON seconded the resolution, briefly declaring his approval of the objects of the Anti-state-church Conference.

The Rev. Dr Cox, of Hackney, being called upon to support the resolution, said he was there that evening by a fortunate accident—fortunate he meant so far as he was himself concerned, for he had not till within a very short time the pleasure of knowing that he should be present at such a meeting, or indeed that it would be held. He had heard of it with great satisfaction and delight, and though on his way back to London from the north, he felt it his duty and his privilege to attend the meeting. Dr Cox then referred to the pleasure he felt in once more being present at the birth-place of the anti-state-church movement:—

There were individuals, before it was formed and when it was first spoken of, who said the movement ought to have been commenced in London. It ought to have been, and why? Because the London people ought to have considered this question long ago, before the gentlemen around him took up the movement. It ought to have been commenced by the people of London immediately after the defeat of the Factories bill. It was, however, in the midland counties that this mighty Hercules was born. But he took this encouragement from the objection—there was the concession "that it ought to have been begun." That was admitted. He agreed with them there, and he was extremely happy that it had begun, and prospered to the extent it had since its commencement. Those gentlemen who dealt in objections often contradicted themselves. Their next objection was "that this was not the time" [laughter]. For his part, he thought it always had been and never could be otherwise than the time to maintain great principles [hear, hear]—to stand forward and advance the cause of nonconformity and dissent. The time had come when this great movement must progress; the character of the Conference had disappointed the fears of their friends and the hopes of their foes—its members met in the spirit of decision, not of violence—impressed with the deep conviction of the interests which were at stake

—aware that they had an unequal warfare to wage, but feeling the magnitude of the object they sought, and the grandeur of their design; and that though personally insignificant, they became mighty through God, and in his hands their feebleness became strength, their insignificance might. They were not afraid, though armed with but a sling and a stone, for they felt it was not they who hurled the stone, but the mighty hand of God rendering them instrumental—as he trusted they would be—for the deliverance of man from his state of thralldom and wretchedness [cheers].

He then expressed his delight at the success of the late Conference, which had far exceeded his most sanguine expectations. In referring to its moral effect, he said:—

When their wives and families said to the delegates, on their return home, "Where have you been? What is this Conference? What is that for which seven hundred men think it worth their while to come from all parts of the empire?" A spirit of inquiry would be raised; and their little ones, rising like olive branches round their tables, would be all attention to what was said. And let them indoctrinate this rising population. Let not their children say they are ashamed of their forefathers; that they shrunk in battle; and that they ought to have shown to the rising generation the right path. No, let them rather take the page of future history, and, as they pass over this name and that, see the smile of the little one. With what a glow will his heart beat—with what a firm foot will he stand, and how proud he will stride about his native city, as he says, "My father was there," or, "I see the honoured name of my forefather crowned with decision when it was required" ["Hear, hear," and cheers]. He could trace forward this great movement, which was now moving the world as it had never been moved before; and there never was a time, in his opinion, when men stood in the moral position in which they now stood. They had the power, either by their apathy, of impeding the great cause of dissent, or of carrying it forward with decision and firmness to triumph; and their names would be stamped with infamy, or covered with glory, according to the course they pursued. If they shrunk from what they had undertaken, disgrace would be their portion, and disgrace they would have; while, if they upheld it, their names would be esteemed and revered. For himself, he would say, "Let us live and let us die in this great and holy cause" [loud cheers].

The resolution was then put from the chair, and carried unanimously.

The Rev. J. SMEDMORE rose to propose the next resolution, and said that it demanded the earnest congratulations of the meeting. It suggested to them fears which were felt, failures which were predicted, and motives misconstrued; but it also spoke of difficulties surmounted, and of the cheering prospect before them. Not only had they suffered no defeat, but had achieved a signal triumph. He retired from the Conference with the deepest satisfaction and the most cheering hope. The wishes of the hostile had been in vain, and the anxiety of friends had been relieved. A decisive step had been taken; an earnest appeal had been answered by a most cordial response; the summons of truth had drawn forth the zealous friends of religion amongst dissenters and lethargy, and listlessness, and indifference had been denounced as treacherous to truth and wrong to God. They were no longer to remain content with their past position; but they were to arise, assail, and, with an aggressive movement and an untiring course, to work out from amongst them ecclesiastical corruption, and free religion from state control [cheers]. The Anti-state-church Conference, so large in its numbers, so broad in its foundations, so enlightened in its views, so earnest in its determination, would constitute an epoch in the history of dissent and in the annals of Christianity [cheers]. The rev. gentleman sat down after proposing the following resolution:—

"That this meeting has learned with much satisfaction the very general interest which was taken by the dissenters of Great Britain and Ireland in the recent Anti-state-church Conference, of the numbers which assembled, the earnest interest which was taken in its proceedings, the spirit of union which pervaded it, and of the wise practical measures which were adopted by it; and they feel confident that if dissenters only persevere in that spirit of combined energy and wisdom which has marked their recent movement, they must ultimately effect the glorious purpose of emancipating the Christian faith from the debasing fetters of the state."

The Rev. J. GOADBY briefly seconded the resolution, affirming his devotedness to the great cause in which they had embarked.

The resolution, on being put from the chair, was unanimously adopted.

Rev. J. P. MURSELL, in proposing the next resolution, said that it had been entrusted to him for obvious reasons. There were some gentlemen present into whose hands it would have been put, could it have been done with propriety. The following was the resolution:—

"That this meeting cannot refrain from recording its unfeigned regret, and its strongest disapprobation, at the outrage which has been recently perpetrated on the consciences and the property of several of their respected fellow townsmen, and hereby testify its respect for their consistency, in submitting to any wanton indignity or losses rather than sacrifice their principles as dissenters—while it rejoices in the conviction, that such flagrant oppressions practised in the sacred name of Christianity, will only deepen the popular impression already to general, of the turpitude of that system under which such glaring injustice can be practised, and they cannot fail to recoil upon the cause which they are so blindly intended to promote."

Mr M. adverted to that part of the resolution sympathising with the church-rate recusants in this town, reminding the assembly of the imprisonment their friend to the right of the Chairman (Mr Wm Baines) had suffered for conscience sake, and that he was still at his post, living in the hope of advancing nonconformity; and remarking of those gentlemen who had suffered the seizure of their goods from year to year, and were willing to do so again, rather than submit to an impost which they considered anti-Christian and unjust, that they ought to live in the esteem and respect of their fellow citizens. He referred to the recent seizures in strong terms, characterising them and the manner in which they were executed as worthy of the times of Bonner and

Laud; and censured the dissenting magistrates who had signed the distress warrants for not leaving them to the churchmen on the bench to sign. He commended the Chairman on the stand he had taken, and hoped the respectable inhabitants of the town would one and all suffer the spoiling of their goods rather than pay the rate, concluding by an eloquent appeal to the assembly to persevere in carrying out the principles and designs of the Anti-state-church Conference, and pledging himself to forward it to the utmost of his ability.

Rev. J. BEDFORD, of Narborough, seconded the resolution, and expressed himself strongly in its favour. He advocated deeds, not words, and was of the same opinion on this subject now as he was twenty years ago; rather than violate his conscience he would lay down his life for the sake of the truth.

C. R. EDMONDS, Esq., put the resolution to the meeting, which was unanimously adopted.

The CHAIRMAN called on Mr J. F. WINKS, who addressed the meeting on the subject of church-rate opposition, and made one or two practical suggestions with reference to the preparation of a series of homely and pungent tracts on the subject of church and state.

The Rev. J. P. MURRELL explained that it had been provided for at the Conference, that a tract depot should be established.

C. R. EDMONDS, Esq., proposed the thanks of the meeting to Mr Cripps, for his conduct in the chair, which was carried unanimously, and having been acknowledged by Mr Cripps, the meeting separated a little before ten o'clock.

NORTHWICH.—THE ANTI-STATE-CHURCH CONFERENCE.—On Monday evening last a public meeting was held at Northwich, that the delegates to the Anti-state-church Conference might give in their report. Mr Robt Harley, who was in the chair, opened the proceedings, and the report of the delegates was considered highly satisfactory. Independents, Wesleyan associationists, and even Wesleyans, notwithstanding the imbecile sneers of the *Watchman*, are joining together to further the great cause. The following was among the resolutions carried:—

"That this meeting deems it desirable that our county be divided into districts or circles; each circle having a radius of four, five, or six miles; that a general committee be established at the centre, and branch committees (subordinate to the general central one) be formed in every village and hamlet in the circle."

A committee is being now formed at Northwich, and there will be about twenty branch committees.

THE PRESS AND THE ANTI-STATE-CHURCH CONFERENCE.

(From the *Dublin Freeman's Journal*).

The Anti-state-church Conference, to which we formerly referred, closed its sittings last week in London. The meeting consisted of about 600 delegates from all parts of the United Kingdom, and as none but those who appeared in a representative character were admitted, it must be regarded as embodying much of the intelligence, energy, and public spirit of the various congregations of dissenters.

In the maintenance of the voluntary principle the Catholics of Ireland, who have been more faithful to it than any other people, and have besides presented the most splendid illustrations of its power, will ever wish them success. Success they cannot fail to have, if they carry out their resolutions honestly and perseveringly, tempering their zeal with wisdom and moderation. For this they seem to have made the best provision possible in the popular constitution of the association. The conference, being elected by the people, chose a council of five hundred, and a large committee, to conduct the affairs of the society. The press is to be used, tracts circulated, and lectures delivered all over the country, in order to instruct and rouse the public mind on the pernicious tendency, the evil principle, and manifold wrongs and abuses connected with establishments, until a public opinion be formed which shall compel the legislature to follow, in this respect, the example of the United States.

This work may require years for its accomplishment. It will expose those engaged in it to the angry opposition, the slanders and vituperation, the bitter animosity and persecution which the advocates of reform have ever encountered from the sticklers for profitable monopolies. If they are not prepared to meet these manfully, they have entered on a foolish enterprise. The battle will be a fierce one, and those who begin it should count the cost. But it is a battle which the voluntaries Catholics and protestants must fight and win ere society can enjoy freedom and peace.

The English dissenters have too long succumbed, in pusillanimous apathy to the domination of a haughty establishment—in whose name their goods have been seized and sold, their persons cast into prison, and their civil rights trampled in the dust.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FREE CHURCH.

Monday, May 20.

The air here is bracing. A healthful current, morally and physically, passes through this primitive-looking place. Then how invigorating it is to see so many smiling, happy, cheerful countenances on every side. The platform, too, this morning breathes freely, there being evidently business on hand of a solemnly pleasing kind. The assembly becomes devotional. This is not sour presbyterianism. The Free kirk has got a tasting of Eabcol's grapes, and

she journeys to the promised land: she seems to realise the sentiment—

"The downcast look and sullen eye,
Suits not the heir of heaven."

Divine service is over.

An abstract-thinking clergyman was one day walking to a country church, the wind blowing strongly in his face. He was passionately fond of snuff. Every time he took a pinch, he had to turn his back to the wind. Getting absorbed in some subject, when a few miles on his way, he turned round, and, forgetting to turn back again, walked straight home, and only became conscious of his mistake when he took his seat at his own fireside! That man was the Rev. Dr Duncan, who has just been to Pesth on a mission to the Jews, from the Free church, and who is just now giving an account of his visit to that interesting people. A long report is read. It proceeds on the principle that the Jews will be converted to Christianity, and restored to Palestine.

EVENING.

What paper is this that an honest-looking person politely puts into my hand? Others get copies, too, as they enter the hall.

"What! leave Britain because parliament insists on intruding unacceptable ministers into vacant parishes, and go to the slaveholding states of America to tell your grievances, and get the sympathy of men who, like a senator of South Carolina, threaten hanging in spite of all the governments on earth against those who merely say that their fellow-men, including the thirty or forty thousand of your presbyterian brethren, should be allowed to read the Bible, and not be robbed by law of their wives, and children, and just wages! At home you complain of Sir Robert Peel, because he will not consent that your Scotch brethren shall *always* have the preacher of their choice, and you are actually going to tell the story of the wrongs of the Free church to men who, like Governor M'Duffie, of South Carolina, clamour for the blood of abolitionists only because they have insisted, and still insist, that your presbyterian brethren in the south, with other Christians and fellow-countrymen, shall call their bodies and their souls their own!" Thus truthfully and eloquently writes Lewis Tappan, of New York, the celebrated abolitionist, and the other members of the executive committee of the "American and Foreign Anti-slavery Society." They add, "Shall it be said, 'What O'Connell refused to touch, when brought to his hand, Dr Chalmers sent, and Drs Cunningham and Burns sent, four thousand miles to solicit?' Burning words these—why so prominently put here to-night? There is a meaning in this. But to the hall.

What a splendid sight is here! Six thousand souls fill this place, and every eye intently bent on the left of the chair. There sits a burly-headed, bluff-looking man, yet softish-expressed in countenance. He rises slowly, and the whole assembly idolise him by their indiscriminate applause. He is tall—stoutly built—herculean, morally and mentally. A powerful machine under the influence of a tremendous motive power, ungovernable often, and sometimes sluggishly inactive. Who is he? That is Dr Cunningham, who has just returned from America, and is to report the result of his mission now. In view of this report, the American address has been re-produced, and is thus brought before the Free Church Assembly:—"The attention of the General Assembly of the Free church of Scotland is affectionately and earnestly called to the following address, reprinted from the *New York Commercial Advertiser*. As the deputation has just returned from America, and will doubtless report the results of their mission, it is greatly to be desired that they would give some account of their intercourse with slaveholders and the slaveholding churches there." Will they do it? They have not. Dr Cunningham speaks for an hour—tells in glowing language of the liberality of the Americans—does homage to the voluntary principle—but does not say one word about slavery! He is thanked heartily, and nobody asks how many of the forty thousand dollars he has brought home came through the polluted hands of the slaveholder and the slaveholding churches of the south. He breathes polluted elements into the Assembly, and the atmosphere becomes pestilential. Stand out here, Dr Cunningham, and listen. Did not Lewis Tappan and other Christian philanthropists address you thus?—

"You are probably aware that, as presbyterians, you have in the southern part of this Union between thirty and forty thousand of the professed brethren and sisters in Christ, whose situation is far more pitiable than that of the oppressed in your land. The Christian peasantry of Sutherland,* grievously as they suffer, know little of the iron despotism of their coloured brethren in the southern part of this country. The duke who bears that title insists that his tenants shall listen to the preachers whom he selects for them, or not build their dissenting churches on his land; and the civil courts sustain him in his alternative. The Free church appeals to God, and to every God-fearing man, against this tyranny. In this republic there are no dukes, but there are thousands of tyrants, some of whom are styled 'honourable,' who will not allow their slaves to learn to read the Bible, or attend upon preaching of their choice; and the civil courts sustain them in their prohibition. These honourable men insist on the right of seizing the wives of the slaves, at any time, and of beating, or selling, or humbling them, as to them seems best; and of selling men, women, and children—and the law authorises it. If they even murder one of their slaves—and God only knows how often this is done—though twenty or one hundred, instead of 'two or three,' are ready to prove the fact, they only run the risk of being murdered in their turn; for the law does not suffer them to testify against men whose skin is whiter than their own. But it may be said, it is

* One of the most northern counties in Scotland.

'Cæsar' who does these things, and what can be expected from Cæsar? What does the church? She declares, from her highest to her lowest judicatories, that these things shall not be interfered with—that the system is legal, nay, even scriptural—and that they who declare it is an outrage against republicanism and the Bible, are fanatics and incendiaries.

"We have reason to believe that neither the Free church of Scotland, nor yourselves, are wholly ignorant of these things. It is, therefore, with astonishment and grief that we have learned that you have commenced a tour through the slave states of this Union, with a view to solicit funds, as well of slaveholders as of other persons. Doubtless you will be warmly greeted by the people, and especially by that portion who hold their fellow men and fellow Christians in bondage. While they proffer you their sympathy and money, you will be invited to occupy the pulpits of the ministers, and the kindest attentions will be lavished upon you. But it will be only while you seal your lips against any condemnation of slaveholding, and preach the gospel according to the usages of southern ministers and the restrictions of the slaveholding members of their churches, that your preaching will be listened to with approbation, or even tolerated. Should you determine to preach, as you have been accustomed to do on your native hills, with special reference to the sins of the people to whom you preach, and with exhortations to all classes to act out the great principles of the gospel, 'whether they will hear or whether they will forbear,' you will speedily learn that the flattering attentions with which you were welcomed will cease—that no more offerings will be made to your treasury—that you will be notified to quit the district where you sojourn, 'peaceably or forcibly.'

"You may exhort from the text, 'Servants, obey your masters,' but, unless you are prepared to have your tour abruptly terminated, speak not of the 'image in which man was made;' of Cain's question, 'Am I my brother's keeper?' of Moses' law, 'In righteousness shalt thou judge thy neighbour;' of David's challenge, 'What hast thou to do to declare my statutes?' When thou sawest a thief, then thou consentedst with him, and hast been partaker with adulterers;' of Solomon's sayings, 'The righteous considereth the cause of the poor, but the wicked regardeth not to know it. So I returned and considered all the oppressions that are done under the sun; and behold the tears of such as were oppressed; and they had no comforter; and on the side of the oppressors there was power, but they had no comforter;' of Isaiah's commands, 'Cease to do evil, seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow;' of Christ's rule, 'Whosoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them, for this is the law and the prophets;' and his question, 'How much better is a man than a sheep?' of Paul's exhortation, 'Masters, give unto your servants that which is just and equal;' of James's upbraiding, 'Go to now, ye rich men. Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth.' Discuss any of these texts as men representing a free church ought to discuss them, as ambassadors of Christ are bound, everywhere, and in all places, to discuss them, and you will find that the congratulations of the presbyters of the south and their people will be turned into execrations."

Did you or did you not realise the truth of this faithful appeal? Did you or did you not keep silent when the slaveholder put his gold into your hand? Or did he throw its dust into your eyes, and shut your vision, when the horrors of slavery were about to rise up before you? You preached in state churches—you were silent on the crime of slavery. You did eat at the slaveholder's table, you were served by a slave, and you denounced not the inhuman and unrighteous doctrine that "man can hold property in man." Why this silence? Was your conscience seared? You justly execrate Judas, because he betrayed his master for thirty pieces of silver. Have a care lest you betray him in America for less than ten thousand pounds! And Dr Candlish, where now is your zeal for the abolition of American slavery? Four short weeks ago you stood forth nobly as the champion of abolition; and, while your reverend brethren were collecting money in South Carolina, for the Free kirk, with their lips sewed by golden thread, you were eloquently and earnestly denouncing the iniquity of its slaveholding laws, by which sentence of death had been passed on John L. Brown, for aiding the escape of a slave from bondage. Why silent now?

Nothing can save the Free kirk from the guilt of aiding and abetting slavery, but to return every penny collected from slaveholders and slaveholding churches to the polluted sources from whence it came. Will that church do so? The Assembly to-night says "No!" and that "no" is final. Gehazi-like, she loves the wedge of gold. Herein consists her sin and misery. Let us hope that her eyes will ere long be opened to see the enormity of this evil, and that she will become "thoroughly furnished to all good works."

Tuesday, May 21.

Two hours ago a lot of sheep were landed from the ferry boat at Leith quay. A gangway was laid for them; then one of the boatmen pulled a formidable looking highland ram to the lower end, and the other sheep pressed closely after. When the highlander was got fairly on the gangway, he was obliged to go forward—he could not get back—so forward he went; landed safely, and all the others followed. The boat looked rickety, and the sheep seemed much more safe and comfortable on *terra firma*, than on the deep blue sea.

Dr Chalmers is now on solid ground. For a long season he was buffeted about in the state kirk. He has left in time; and though he needed to be pulled to the gangway, and was pretty much pressed from behind—though a kind of animal instinctuality led some to follow him, and others to follow them—nobody here to-night seems to regret leaving the rickety craft, twelvemonths ago last Friday.

Dr Chalmers is eloquent. He is on the state of religion in the land, and the means of promoting true Christianity. He is philosophical, metaphysical, theological, and practical. "Everything by turns, and nothing long." His singularly-gifted

mind is unequal in its grasp, fitful in exercise, and capricious withal; the doctor looks so long at one idea, that his vision gets confused, and it then either becomes highly magnified in its appearance, or assumes the most fantastic shapes. He has got hold of the popish idea suggested by the Chairman on Thursday, that the Free kirk is the *only* true kirk; and hence the state of religion is made dependent on the state of the Free kirk. That is the sum and substance of the doctor's thesis.

EVENING.

The best means of extending Christianity is the subject of discussion. "To a large extent in the American churches, the mode of setting about the work of the ministry is what may be called a business way—with a distinct and definite idea of the object to be aimed at—with a real desire and determination to effect it—with sincere regret and disappointment when it is not gained, and with anxious inquiry into the causes of failure, when it has been experienced." Such is the testimony of Dr Cunningham to the efficiency of the voluntary system of America. The whole philosophy of Christian effort lies in that sentence. Every Christian church should get it stereotyped and practically realised. Church fellowship—"first pure, then peaceable"—Drs Cunningham and Candlish both acknowledge, the one plainly, the other by implication, that the communion of the Free church is not pure. They are right, and if the leaven of unrighteousness find a home in the constitution of the Free kirk, it will work itself into destructive size and shape.

The establishment principle again. A Yankee told an Englishman that the mists were sometimes so thick in America, that if one put up his cane it would stick fast. Mists thick and dark enough seem to prevail here, when the abstract question of church establishments is under review. But they are dispelling, and it won't take fifty years, as it did with the old secession, to chase them all away.

"Had they gone as voluntaries, expecting support on the voluntary principle, they would not, they could not, have been welcomed by voluntaries as honest and conscientious men." Why? "Because had it appeared that they had embraced the voluntary principle, merely because they were disestablished, the voluntaries could not have sympathised with them." Such are the sentiments of the deputation to England. Dr Candlish is skilled in casuistry, but on what principle of morals he can reconcile this doctrine with the claims of common honesty, we cannot divine.

Thursday, May 23.

The Free church. Now just look at this specimen of its freedom. That benign-looking middle-aged gentleman, who sits at the bar in front of the chair, has been labouring most successfully in a rural district in Aberdeenshire. He is beloved by his flock, and his whole affections are with them. A church at Inverness has heard him preach and gives him a call. He does not want it—his whole feelings are opposed to it—but the assembly has just declared that translated he must be to Inverness, because it thinks that a better sphere of labour. The people of his charge remonstrate, but a leading member in reply says, "He had every respect for the rights of the people, but he did not think that their rights were to be put in comparison with the rights of those who rule in God's house." And these sentiments the General Assembly of the Free kirk homologate! Freedom! why this is bondage. Popery! the popery of protestantism, a living embodiment of Pope's estimate—

"New presbyter is but priest writ large."

Friday, May 24.

Financial affairs to-day. The Assembly are able to give a dividend for last year's salary of £100 to each of the Free kirk ministers. Good. Go on, friends, with your movements, and you will soon prove that voluntarism is more than a match for the state kirk. You will get plenty of money to build your new college, and library, and hall, but take care and not "hasten to get rich," lest "you fall into a snare"—already, like Jeshurun, you have been waxing fat and kicking.

There goes Doctor Candlish with a slashing speech against slavery. He is nevertheless—

"willing to wound,
And yet afraid to smite."

Dr Cunningham follows. The slaveholder has beat his best moral feelings into dollars, and put them in his pocket. He got a D.D. by anticipation, and thus presents his obsequious acknowledgments.

Saturday, May 25.

Time flies apace, and yet we are only at the beginning of the end. We want to see the constitution on which this Free kirk is to be permanised. It's not here to-day.

Psalmody! How shall it be improved. A Highland man, who had been on the continent, told his friends, on his return, that the people there praised God with a "kist o' fustles" [chest of whistles]. Here it is proposed to appoint a committee to draw up a book on simple psalmody. The good folks across the Tweed have organs—that won't do here. A single peal of an organ, in any presbyterian church in Scotland, would send the whole congregation helter-skelter to Padanaram. We are not a musical people, and all our worship is severely abstract.

[We are compelled, for want of space, to reserve the report of the State-Church Assembly until next week].

SEIZURES FOR CHURCH-RATES AT GREENWICH.—The long threatened seizures for church-rates upon the goods and chattels of upwards of 20 respectable inhabitants at Greenwich, against whom warrants of distress had been issued, were made on Tuesday and Thursday last, at the instance of the churchwarden, Mr James Roberts. The scenes were such as to create no small excitement in the town. Vast bodies of persons had collected on Blackheath to witness these singular proceedings, as well as other parts of the town, during the day, and expressed their astonishment to see the services of the police called in requisition. There are other warrants out, which for the present are suspended, two of which are for rates demanded from guardians of the poor. A great many of the church people have refused to pay the rate, against whom no warrants have been issued.

MORPETH CHURCH-RATES.—The "goods and chattels" of the six persons, summoned as already stated, before the magistrates at Morpeth, and by them ordered to pay their portions of the rate, have at length been seized under a distress warrant, granted by William Lawson, Esq., and are advertised to be sold at the Market-cross on Monday night. Arrangements are in preparation for a public demonstration of sympathy.—*Gateshead Observer*.

REFUSAL TO EXECUTE A WARRANT.—On Monday Mr David Bassett, an extensive corn chandler and miller at Uxbridge, and one of the constables of the township, was condemned in penalties together amounting to £16, for refusing to execute certain distress warrants against various church-rate recusants in the town.

PERSECUTION.—A cruel persecution is now being carried on by the church clergyman of Ludgershall, Bucks, against parties, on account of their attending the Wesleyan ministry in that parish. Some ejections have already taken place. Various other means have been resorted to, in order to prevent the people from thinking for themselves. The tyrant is very unpopular in the parish; but few attend his preaching.

NEW ARRANGEMENT OF THE PARISH OF LEEDS.—We have authority to state that the bill prepared by the vicar for the new arrangement of the parish of Leeds has received the final consent of the ecclesiastical commissioners, and will be cordially supported by Her Majesty's government. An extension of time has been granted for the introduction of the bill, and if the details receive, as there is little doubt, the consent of the trustees, whose consent to the general measure has been obtained already, the bill will pass during the present session.—*Leeds Intelligencer*.

THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH OF TAHITI.—We recommend the following article, which appears in the *Baptist Magazine* for this month, to the attention of our readers, and particularly to any (if such there be) who would make recent events in Tahiti a *casus belli* with France:—

"It ought to be generally known that the recent troubles of Queen Pomaré in Tahiti have arisen from that fruitful root of bitterness, the desire of connecting religion with the state. This does not justify the ambitious and oppressive conduct of the French, or necessarily implicate the London Missionary Society's agents, as it is possible that they were not parties to the transaction. The fact, however, ought to be known, that the lesson may not be lost which it presents to kings, queens, and all ministers of the gospel who acquire influence with earthly sovereigns. In forwarding to Lord Palmerston, in 1838, the following passage, the apparently approving language of Mr Pritchard is—'I have also inclosed a copy of a law, passed by the Tahitian legislative body, by which your lordship will perceive that the protestant faith has now become the religion of the state.'"

TRANSLATION.

"A law concerning the propagation of tenets inconsistent with the true gospel.

"Let Tahiti and all the islands of the kingdom of Pomaree Vahine the First, stand unique under that gospel which the missionaries from Britain have propagated ever since the year 1797, that is, these forty years past.

"When foreigners come from other countries to this, on their landing let this law be put into their hands, that they may know, if such persons persist in teaching tenets which are inconsistent with that true gospel which has been of old propagated in Tahiti; if they build houses for worship, if they congregate followers in uncultivated places, that they may teach them all kinds of strange doctrines; if they trouble the usual modes of worship, and propagate strange customs for the sake of amusing, that do not comport with the written word of the God of truth, such person has become guilty of breaking this law, and will be judged and awarded. This shall be his award. He will be sent to his own land, and shall not reside in Tahiti.

"If any Tahitian shall propagate doctrines inconsistent with the gospel of truth, such as are called Mamoa, because they are doctrines inconsistent with those which have been taught by the missionaries from Britain, and with what is found in the written word of God, that person has violated the law; if he be a person of rank or a common man, it is the same, he has broken the law, and will be judged and awarded. This will be his award. He will be sent to his native land to accomplish the sentence of the law in; if it be public road, fifty fathoms; if any other work, such as is found written in the laws.

"If he persist in refusing to do it, he will be judged, and new work imposed on him.

Tahiti, 8th November, 1838.

"The principles which this iniquitous edict embodies had been acted upon previously. Messrs Laval and Carret, French Roman catholic missionaries, had been sent away from the island in 1836; reparation was demanded by the French admiral; and a series of deplorable consequences has ensued."

ANTI-STATE-CHURCH AGITATION IN JAMAICA.—Our readers will have seen, from the extracts we have lately given from the *Jamaica Baptist Herald*, that the agitation of the anti-state-church question is not confined to England. Our energetic contemporary,

which enjoys a large circulation and great influence throughout the island, is endeavouring to instruct dissenters in their own principles, and arouse them to action in their support. Steps are to be taken for bringing the question to bear in the election of representatives, and the *Herald* holds out the prospect of a vigorous agitation during the recess, preparatory to the next meeting of the House of Assembly, when strenuous efforts will, it is supposed, be made to place a large sum in the hands of the bishop for church purposes. We heartily wish our fellow-labourers in this great work God speed. We perceive also from the *Guiana Times*, that the voluntary question is beginning to excite considerable attention in that colony.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR—Permit me, through your journal, to call the attention of the public to the propriety of a meeting in favour of the fund to reimburse Mr Piggott, of Romford, for expenses incurred in opposing the church rate illegally charged to him by the churchwardens.

The advantages arising from the meeting will be threefold.

1st. To reimburse an actual outlay.
2nd. To give spirit to other persons who may feel it their duty to oppose the obnoxious impost of a church rate.

3rd. To convince the advocates of compulsory payments in support of religion, that every similar species of prosecution, *alias* persecution, will in future be the signal for support of the persecuted and persecuted, and of holding up to public view the inconsistency and unscriptural character of state provisions for the avowed support of the kingdom of Christ, who emphatically declared, "His kingdom was not of this world; else would his servants fight."

I should think, sir, if a meeting be called in London it would be well supported, and the amount required easily obtained. I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

EBENEZER CLARKE.

Snaresbrook, Essex, May 24th, 1844.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS FOR THE WEEK.

Corn laws, against alteration of, 158.
Dissenters' Chapels bill, against, 247.
for, 18.
Ecclesiastical courts bill, against, 1.
Local Courts, for establishment of, 3.
Marriages (Ireland), for declaring valid, 58.
Poor Law Amendment act, against, 7.
for alteration, 6.
St Asaph and Bangor dioceses, against union of, 14.

BILLS PRESENTED AND READ A FIRST TIME.

Slave Trade Treaties bill.
New South Wales Government bill.

BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

Forestalling, &c., bill.
Courts Martial (East Indies) bill.
Smoke Prohibition bill.
Slave Trade Treaties bill.

CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

Customs Duties bill.
Supply.
Courts Martial (East Indies) bill.

READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED.

Turnpike Acts Continuance (Ireland) bill.
Customs Duties bill.
Gold and Silver Wares bill.

DEBATES.

Thursday, May 23rd.

HONORARY DISTINCTIONS.

Mr HUME moved for "an address to her Majesty, that her Majesty will be pleased to give directions that whenever her Majesty shall grant the honour of the peerage, or baronetcy, or knighthood, or order, for eminent public services, no fees shall be charged thereon." He said that he had objected to the charge which was made in the estimates for the honours granted to the King of Prussia, and some of our brave officers for their services, for which the country was asked to pay upwards of £2,000. He had no desire to interfere with existing interests; but, at the same time, he thought that the system should be discontinued as regarded the future. At least, there ought to be a committee to inquire into the origin of these claims for fees in the different herald offices.

Mr W. WILLIAMS seconded the motion.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER explained that these fees were the right, sanctioned by law, of the officers interested in them, and that the crown could not exert its prerogative in their abrogation without injustice. He gave some details of the amounts paid in fees for dignities, a duke being charged £350, the scale sliding downwards to a baron, who has to pay £150; and urged that the evil, if it were one, was not so grievous as to warrant their interference, more especially as the fees paid on honours conferred on foreigners, or from which, for special reasons, subjects were exempted, and the amount of which was charged to the nation, were included in the estimates, and brought under the annual consideration of parliament.

After a few observations from Mr WILLIAMS, the motion was negatived without a division.

Friday, May 24th.

GAMBLING AT EPSOM.

Mr C. BERKELEY asked what amusements of the people the government intended to suppress, under the general instructions which they had issued to the magistracy and police for their guidance at the Epsom races?

Sir J. GRAHAM was not sorry that an opportunity of explanation was thus afforded him. A committee had lately sat on the subject of gambling, and had made a report respecting it, of which he had been cognizant for some days, and to which he had considered the immediate attention of the government to be due. This report contained a very strong passage relative to the mischiefs of gambling on the race-courses. He had lately done his utmost to suppress such practices in London, where they prevailed to a greater extent than in any capital in Europe; and he had since instructed the police to communicate with the local magistracy for the purpose of suppressing similar practices at Epsom. It would be hardly accurate to describe this as an interference with games of chance; for the system on which they were conducted made them matters, not of chance, but of certainty. Dice had been seized, which, though not loaded, were yet so constructed that it was particularly easy to throw 11 or 12, and impossible to throw deuce-ace, some of the numbers, indeed, being wholly omitted. He believed that gambling had for some time been on the increase in and around London. He knew it to be one of the most fertile and fatal sources of ruin and misery to those who were the victims of its temptations; and he was determined to exercise all the powers of the law for suppressing it.

SUPPLY.

On the order of the day for going into committee of supply.

Mr HUME desired to know whether any, and what government had been appointed in Canada, to supply the place of the ministers who had resigned their offices there? Lord STANLEY said that the Canadian administration had not yet been entirely formed, but that he hoped the arrangements for it would soon be completed.

The House then went into committee of supply.

Mr WILLIAMS objected to the vote of £11,353 for the maintenance of the ecclesiastical establishments in North America, but on the assurance from Lord STANLEY that these estimates were being reduced, and would ultimately cease, withdrew his opposition.

In the course of the discussions on the estimates for colonial charges, some observations were made by Mr V. SMITH on the subject of colonial immigration. Lord STANLEY said he had requested from the authorities in India some information for the guidance of government respecting this subject, which, for the sake of the West Indian colonies, he was desirous of encouraging under safe regulations. Mr HUME advocated an entire freedom of transit for labour. Mr HAWES, on the contrary, was anxious for the careful interposition of the government, lest, under the colour of immigration, there should be a revival of the slave trade and the whips. Mr BERNAL and Mr P. STEWART took him to task for these imputations on the dispositions and intentions of the West Indian planters. Lord STANLEY said, that the number of emigrants during the last year had been between 59,000 and 60,000; the number in the previous year having been 120,000.

On the vote of £49,700 for the salaries of stipendiary magistrates in our West Indian colonies, in the Cape of Good Hope, and at the Mauritius, Mr WILLIAMS objected to taxing the people of England for stipendiary magistrates to protect negroes. The blacks, being now free, should pay, like other free people, for their own magistrates. These offices were retained upon our estimates, he believed, for purposes of patronage. Lord STANLEY said the vote had been greatly reduced of late years. In 1838, it was £69,800; in 1840, £58,700; in 1842, £52,850; and now it was only £49,700. As the establishment of order proceeded, of course the necessity for this vote would be gradually removed. Colonel SMITHOTHOPE hoped Mr WILLIAMS would divide, for the sake of showing the country that of the popular members there were present only 11, two of whom were fast asleep. Mr HUME said, that the large attendance on the ministerial side was probably owing to the "whip." However, as reduction was promised, he would advise Mr WILLIAMS to refrain from dividing. Mr WILLIAMS acted on this advice.

Upon the vote of £24,000 being proposed for expenses incidental to commissions appointed under treaties of England with foreign powers, for the purpose of putting an end to the traffic in slaves, Mr HUME took occasion to remonstrate against the continuation of British expenditure for the suppression of the slave trade, when experience showed that all our efforts had rather aggravated than relieved the evil.

On the vote of £107,300 for the expenses of consular establishments, Mr WILLIAMS made a few remarks:—

There were sums named for the payment of consuls at Warsaw, and Madrid, and Paris. Now, of what use, he would ask, were consuls at Warsaw, and Paris, and Madrid? He saw amongst the items a sum of £550 for the payment of the consul at Marseilles. The consul at Marseilles charged British subjects a sum of money for signing their passports—a fact of which he was well aware, for he (Mr WILLIAMS), when at Marseilles, had to pay eight shillings for having his passport signed. At Lisbon there was a consul receiving £600 a year, and a vice-consul £300. He should like to know what necessity there was for these two officers, and this while there was an ambassador or chargé d'affaires, or whatever he was called, receiving a large amount of the public money. At Constantinople, again, there was a consul-general and a vice-consul, besides an ambassador or secretary of legation, and three attachés, receiving £15,000 a year. At Jerusalem also, and other places, there were very expensive diplomatic establishments. He saw no necessity for these numerous appointments, the expenses of which were very burthensome to the public.

Sir G. CLERK defended the appointment of consuls as necessary to trade. The vote was finally passed.

The next vote proposed was a sum of £20,000 for extraordinary expenses of ambassadors at foreign courts. Mr WILLIAMS complained of the amount of

this vote, and contrasted the expense and efficiency of our ambassadors at foreign courts with those of the representatives of the United States, in both which respects the comparison was much to the prejudice of this country.

On the vote of £4,979, to pay sundry allowances formerly defrayed from the civil list, the hereditary revenues of the Crown, &c., for which no permanent provision had been made, Mr HUME said, that it appeared that £1,695 of the sum included in this vote was received by protestant dissenting ministers in England. He must say that he considered it disgraceful that dissenters, who were unconnected with the state, should receive such grants of money from the Crown; and, on this ground, he protested against the vote.

The only other vote that encountered opposition was that of £16,000 for additional volunteers in Canada. Mr HUME said, that, if this country was at peace with the United States, he could not see the use of a military force to watch the frontier of Canada. The Canadians, having a government of their own, ought to pay their own expenses of defence; and, if the sum was small, it was the easier for them to pay. The committee divided, when the numbers were—for the vote, 73; against it 7; majority, 66.

Various other votes were passed, and the House resumed.

MISCELLANEOUS.

On Wednesday evening the little business transacted was of a routine character, and there not being forty members present, the House adjourned shortly before five o'clock.

MAL-ADMINISTRATION OF CHARITIES.—On Thursday, Mr W. O. STANLEY moved for a select committee to inquire into the management of the Friars Bangor Free school, instituted to teach poor children, but now used by the rich. Sir JAMES GRAHAM opposed the motion, the House not being the proper tribunal; but announced that government intended to carry a measure this session to provide a summary and judicial remedy in every case of abuse, so as to enforce the application of the funds in accordance with the wishes of the testator.

THE UNIVERSITIES.—Mr CHRISTIE rose to move, on Thursday, for "an address to her Majesty, praying that she will be graciously pleased to issue a commission to inquire into all matters relating to the statutes, revenues, trusts, privileges, and present general condition, as regards education, learning, and religion, of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, and the colleges and halls in those universities." He had but begun, however, when the House was "counted out."

THE COUNTING OUT OF THE HOUSE.—On Friday, Mr CHRISTIE complained of the conduct of the honourable member for Wallingford, and some of his associates on the previous evening, by which the House had been "counted out," when he was about to bring under its consideration the state of the universities. He thought it was extremely ungracious of the government not to have assisted in keeping a house after they had given permission to the president of the Board of Trade to take a government bill before the notices of motion, which had precedence. Mr BLACKSTONE admitted that he had called upon the Speaker to count the House, as he thought the subject of too much importance to be discussed when there were only about thirty members present. Sir R. PEEL said he himself, on the preceding day, had been taking some refreshment, and had desired he might be called down whenever Mr Christie should begin. He had been wholly unaware of any intention to count out the house, and, indeed, he had a notice of his own, relating to a matter of importance, which, by what had happened, he was prevented from bringing on.

PUBLIC BUSINESS.—On the same evening Sir R. PEEL said he proposed to go on with the Ecclesiastical Courts bill on Friday next. On Monday the 3rd of June, he should take the sugar duties; on Thursday, the 6th of June, the Dissenters' Chapels bill; and on Friday, the 7th of June, he proposed to take the Parishes (Scotland) bill.

CORN LAWS.—Mr VILLIERS postponed his motion on the subject of the corn laws from the 11th to the 18th of June, and if he could not then bring it forward, he should feel obliged, though reluctantly, to move it as an amendment on the first night of supply.

IRELAND.—Mr WYSE gave notice of his motion for an inquiry into the proceedings on the recent state trial, for Tuesday, June 18.

ART UNIONS.—On the motion of Mr WYSE, the following select committee was appointed on the subject of art unions:—Mr WYSE, Viscount Palmerston, Mr Solicitor-general, Mr Ewart, Mr Escott, Mr Baring Wall, Viscount Adare, Mr Hayter, Mr Plumptre, Mr Thomas Duncombe, Mr Liddell, Mr Ridley Colborne, Mr William Mackenzie, Sir Charles Lemon, and Mr M'Geachey.

WHITSUNTIDE HOLIDAYS.—On Friday the House was adjourned until the following Thursday (tomorrow).

GILBERT UNIONS.—Sir J. GRAHAM moved the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the management of Gilbert unions. Captain PECHILL objected to such a motion at so late an hour of the night, and when nearly all the members interested were out of town. After some conversation the motion was agreed to, and the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Thursday, May 23rd.

LORD BROUGHAM AND THE GATES.

On this evening, there was some discussion of a very lively and peculiar character, raised on the Lancaster and Carlisle Railway bill, Lord BROUGHAM considering himself particularly aggrieved by the

conduct of the company, in their proposed mode of passing his property: he having procured the addition of a clause to enable him, as Lord Campbell said, "to erect gates across the Queen's highway, and that, too, upon the great north road," which was rejected by the House of Commons. But the matter took a wider and somewhat more personal range than the merits of a particular clause in a railway bill. After some previous altercation, the Earl of Devon having moved the adjournment of the debate until after the recess,

Lord BROUGHAM said, he was perfectly ashamed to detain the House on what might appear a personal and trumpery matter relating to himself; but the treatment he had met with, and the manner in which he had been trepanned into giving up his opposition to the bill, formed a matter of great importance to the conduct of private business in that house. He insisted on the necessity of an inquiry; and reiterated his charge of party motives.

He wished to ask, when did their lordships ever see the noble marquis and his friends around him so anxious about a clause in a railway bill before? when so loud on such a subject—some on their legs, and some not on their legs? Why, could any man doubt, that if this had not been his (Lord Brougham's) clause, the case would have been different? If his noble friends would say that the same piece of work would have been made—the same fuss, and the same movements adopted, the same tone used—that they would have employed the same cries, and uttered the same calls, if the property of his noble friend the late premier, or of his noble and learned friend who had succeeded him on the woolsack (Lord Cottenham) had been concerned—his mind would be altered. But till he heard that, he should believe that this had been considered a good opportunity for thwarting him. His noble and learned friend had intimated that, if retained as counsel in the cause, he would abandon his client. [Lord CAMPBELL—"For the sake of the character of the client!"] No! for his own ease; for if he abandoned the clause, he must abandon the client also.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE asked, why Lord Brougham had not moved for inquiry on Tuesday; and reminded the House that parties had been detained in town at great expense. He still more indignantly rebutted the charge of party motives made by Lord Brougham.

He again made that attack upon him; which he defied his noble and learned friend to substantiate, and which he told his noble and learned friend was so gross and unfounded, that few men but himself would dare to make it against him [loud cries of "Order!"]. He begged pardon of the House; but he would say that the charge was one which few men would have made, and which no man ought to make who was not able to substantiate it. There was no want of opportunity to substantiate it, if it were possible to make it good. His noble and learned friend must allow him that he a little overstated the fact that their opposition to the clause was occasioned by his hostility to certain noble lords, near whom for some reason or other he chose to sit. He (the Marquis of Clanricarde) knew no one who, in argument or reasoning, could give greater support to a party than his noble and learned friend: he knew how great was the power which his noble and learned friend lent to a debate; he knew how much aid he extended to the administration, and to the noble and learned lord on the woolsack; but power in this country was not only founded on eloquence, or on energy—other attributes were required, and he was not afraid to say that, if they wished to single out their most dangerous enemy, and the one that was perhaps in the first class of those to whom they would be most disposed to hold out a bait and to conciliate, he (the Marquis of Clanricarde) for one should not put his noble and learned friend in that class. He thought that great advantages might be derived from his stupendous abilities, his wonderful acquirements, and great resources, and the readiness with which he applied them; but, if he thought that he (the Marquis of Clanricarde) would for those advantages think it worth his while, putting the thing merely as a matter of mercantile value, to forfeit one particle of character from any motive, or abate one jot of a proper appreciation of duty and honesty, his noble and learned friend was widely mistaken [hear, hear]; and if he (the Marquis of Clanricarde), as far as his part in the matter went, had suffered himself to be actuated by personal or party motives, he should do himself a mischief which he could assure his noble and learned friend could not do him in the very small and insignificant space he occupied in the public eye, great as were his noble and learned friend's abilities, great as was his energy [hear, hear].

Lord BROUGHAM admitted that it was always unpleasant to get into altercations with a friend—a valued friend, or to listen to altercations; and he gave a full belief to Lord Clanricarde's disavowal of motives; professing also great satisfaction on another point:—

It was said that, in the opinion of some noble lords, his hostility was a very light matter, and that they on the opposition side of the House did not care about it: he was happy to hear that—he heartily rejoiced at it; because it was always painful to find your friends receiving pain from your conduct, guided though it might be by considerations of public duty; and he was glad to think that what he had been led to do by a sense of public duty was not only no disappointment to his noble friends, but that they were indifferent about it, and thought it a matter of no consequence whatever. Perhaps at the bottom of all this annoyance to his noble friends, was his sometimes supporting her Majesty's government, and not them. They perceived, however, that the difference between the two parties was not always so very trifling as that a little dust or a needle in the balance could turn the scale; and they said that they did not mind him throwing that dust, that little needle, into the opposite scale. But then, they ought not to abuse him so much, or complain of him; for he went over in good company. He wished his noble friend Lord Howden was there; he would have applied to him to confirm what he said, for Lord Howden had made a most able and eloquent speech the other night in support of ministers; and Lord Grey had written to Lord Howden approving of his speech, and saying that if he had been in his place in parliament he also should have supported ministers.

The discussion went on thus irregularly somewhat longer; the Duke of WELLINGTON and the Marquis of SALISBURY advocating the postponement of the question; the Earl of RADNOR and Lord MONTAGUE opposing it. On a division, the adjournment was negatived, by 33 to 32. There was then a little more disputation; which Lord Brougham wound up by saying with great emphasis, "I will take very good care of these people when they come with their next bill [a laugh]. They will have a very difficult task to induce me to withdraw my opposition to their next bill [loud laughter]." Lord Clanricarde's motion for the passing of the bill was carried; Lord Brougham announcing a protest.

We are informed that Messrs Grote, Prescott, and Co., the bankers, have put down their names for £100 towards the national fund which the Chartists are about to raise, for the purpose of purchasing an estate for Mr Thomas Duncombe, as a testimonial of their sense of his services to their cause, both in and out of parliament.—*Chronicle*.

The Complete Suffrage Movement.

MR CRAWFORD'S SPEECH ON MOVING FOR LEAVE TO BRING IN A BILL FOR COMPLETE SUFFRAGE.

HAVING on former occasions, when I brought forward motions before this House for the reform of the representation, stated in detail the principles and arguments on which the claim of the people was founded, I feel that it would not be a judicious trespass on the time of the House to go at length into a repetition of those arguments. I shall, therefore, as briefly as possible, notice the leading points affecting this question. If the principle of representative government be considered, it is this—that the whole members of a community, feeling that laws and government are necessary for general good, surrender their individual rights, and appoint certain members of that community to govern and make laws for the benefit of the whole; but, as a security for the just performance of that duty, they retain the power of changing, from time to time, those whom they so appoint. If the power to make laws be held either by an individual, or a body of persons, not subject to such control and re-appointment, that government is a despotism, and the people governed are, politically speaking, not freemen, but slaves; and, if the power of making that appointment be not equally diffused through the whole community, or if one portion have the power of exercising this right, to the exclusion of any other portion of the community, a slave class is constituted, and those so excluded cease to be freemen. Thus universality of the suffrage is the great principle and prime foundation of free institutions, which principle ought to be approached so far as the imperfections of humanity will permit; but it is true, at the same time, that perfection is not attainable in any human institution, and that, as government is founded for the public good, the theoretic principle must be limited in such degree as the interests of the community can be clearly shown to require that limitation. This is the only basis on which any limitations of the natural rights of man can be founded, the only justification of restrictive and limiting laws of any description; but when clearly proved, it is a justification of such limitations: and I admit that the right of the suffrage cannot be exempted from its operation. Therefore, whilst I contend for the principle of the universality of the suffrage, I have never described my proposition under that name, because, under the regulations and exceptions I propose, it is not properly entitled to that term; and for this reason, the petitioners whom I particularly represent in this house have made use of the term "complete suffrage." In conformity with these principles and views, on a former occasion, I asked the leave of the House to bring in a bill for the reform of the representation; and I now reiterate my application. The suffrage I contended for is what may be most practically denoted by the term "manhood suffrage;" but I proposed that this suffrage should be limited, by strict registration regulations, to those who can prove themselves to have resided for a certain length of time before registration within the electoral district. This, of course, would make a very great limitation on the principle of universal suffrage, which limitation would be greater or less, according to the length of time of residence specified—it would be a matter of detail to be considered in committee. I proposed also the exclusion of all persons under sentence of a jury for any crime, and all persons of unsound mind; and there might be also other limitations of a minor character. I recollect being challenged by the right honourable baronet at the head of her Majesty's government, on the subject of female suffrage. I am not prepared to say that female suffrage ought not to be admitted under certain limitations; but that demand has not been made by the female class, and I think it is not necessary now to argue it. The foregoing were the limitations I proposed as necessary for the beneficial working of the suffrage with relation to the interests of the community at large. By those restrictions I admit that individuals would be excluded from the present exercise of the right of the suffrage; but they would not operate as a perpetual exclusion against any man or any class in the community, and they would act equally against all classes. This is the general nature of the propositions I should submit with reference to the suffrage. But those who support the equal representation of the people feel that there might be a universal or complete suffrage, and nevertheless that the people might not be able freely to give their votes, or to enjoy the benefit of just representation, or sufficient control over their representatives; therefore they claim a new and more equal distribution of electoral districts. There can be no equality of representation without equality of voting districts. If 100 voters return a representative in one district, whilst 1000 in another district elect but one representative, the electors in the first district have an undue weight in the representation. Therefore we claim that the electoral districts shall be equalised as far as practicable, in order to give every part and parcel of the United Kingdom its due weight in the representative body; and in order to guard the voter from the manifold undue influences which are continually acting upon him, to prevent the honest declaration of his opinion by his vote, we demand the ballot as the only mode of effectual protection. These are the particular points to which I desire specially to call the attention of the House, in the bill which I desire to lay on their table, with relation to the suffrage—viz., first, the refinement of the suffrage, which I propose to be manhood suffrage, together with the exceptions and limitations by registration regulations; secondly, the more equal arrangement of electoral districts; and, thirdly, the taking of votes by ballot. These are what I consider the essentials of free representation. There are some other points to which I shall afterwards allude; but these are the grand foundation on which every other improvement must be based. I do not wish now to detain the House with a long array of detailed arguments, but I would ask, can any fair man defend the present state of the representation? I find it summed up briefly in the following terms, in a memorial addressed by the electors of Liverpool to their representatives:—"It is now a fact too palpable to be denied, that the Reform bill of 1832, continuing, as it does, to exclude from the elective franchise six millions out of seven of the adult male population of the United Kingdom, while, at the same time, it gives to 500,000 electors the power virtually to return a majority of members to the House of Commons, renders the voice of the people utterly powerless; and has thus disappointed their reasonable and just expectations

as to that House being the representative of the British people." Again, in a petition presented yesterday, from the inhabitants of Liverpool, we have the following statement:—"that twenty-seven small boroughs with an aggregate population of 172,000, send to parliament thirty-two members; while Liverpool, which has a population exceeding the collective numbers of those twenty-seven boroughs by more than one hundred thousand, only sends two members. Can any man say that such a state of things ought to continue? Is it possible to argue that some extension of the suffrage ought not to be given? that some better arrangement and division of electoral districts should not be made? then I claim support from all members who think so. If I am permitted to go into committee with a bill, let the particular modes of extending and regulating the franchise which I propose be there argued, and I claim no pledge from any member to support my particular propositions till I prove them to be safe and necessary. The present franchise excludes the great body of the working classes in towns, and in the counties the agricultural labourer is entirely excluded; the nature of the qualification practically has that effect. Is this just or right? The advocates of these exclusions must show that they are necessary for the interests of the community, and that they produce freedom and purity of election, or else they cannot sustain them. I am ready to enter into that argument if they will meet me in committee. Can it be maintained that the present arrangement of districts and distribution of members give a fair representation to the several portions of a kingdom represented in a united imperial parliament? Has Ireland a fair proportion? Has Scotland a fair proportion? have even the different parts of England fair proportions compared with each other? It is impossible to assert that they have. Let us then enter into the inquiry, and try how it can be amended. I do not say that exact equality of districts can be attained, but certainly we ought to approach as nearly as may be practicable to the principle of equalisation. With respect to the ballot, I hold that to be an essential accompaniment of extended suffrage. I am of opinion it would be absolutely injurious without the ballot, and that, in like manner, the ballot might be injurious without the extension of the suffrage. I am desirous fairly to state that the practical object I have in view is the admission of the working classes, under proper regulations, to the suffrage—and why? because experience clearly proves that their interests are not now fairly protected: the powers of mind and money are bearing them down—they are incompetent to protect themselves against these mighty powers arrayed against them, unless they are permitted a greater power over the legislators of the country. It is argued that they ought not to get the franchise because they are poor and uneducated. I maintain, on the contrary, these are the very reasons why they most require it: their poverty and want of learning render them feeble, and liable to become a prey to oppression. It is not necessary that a voter should understand state policy. It is a very minor portion of those who now hold the franchise that do so. The unlearned voter can judge of the personal qualities of the candidate, from his knowledge of his conduct, and this will be the general guide of the poor man's vote: he ought not to be debarred from the power of naming the man who is to act for him, although he may not have the learning necessary to direct the special acts of legislation. I need not recur to distant periods of history to give instances in order to prove the necessity of giving to the working people the protection and influence which the suffrage would confer upon them—the most powerful example I could offer is that which is supplied by the latest proceedings of this House. On the 18th of last March the House came to a vote, by a majority of nine, which was substantially in favour of a limitation to ten hours' work in factories, for women and young persons; on the 22nd the vote of the House was again recorded, to the same effect, by a majority of three; and yet, notwithstanding these two decisions, that boon which the working classes sought for, and which the House agreed to grant, was rescinded this morning by a majority of 138. And what was the cause or excuse for this? Did the workers ask you to rescind this vote? No such thing. I believe there was not a single public meeting of workers which did not, almost without a dissenting voice, call upon you to adhere to it; and, if your petition report be referred to, we find, under the head of Factory bill, No. 2, against further limiting the hours of labour, only 1086 names; for further limitation, 38,813; and, in the first class mentioned, I have reason to know that many of the names of workers were attached under the influence of employers. The real cause of this degrading change, in the vote of this House, is, that the money section was too strong for the working section—that the money section had influence over the government, and the government have power over you—the government issued their commands, and you, the representatives of the people, obeyed the commands of your masters—you, by this vote, gave tacit, but at the same time irresistible, proofs of all the allegations of the petition which I presented yesterday from the Complete Suffrage Association. This petition tells you that you are not the representatives of the people; that your proceedings are influenced by selfish and party motives, rather than by a regard to justice or to the wants and interests of the people, and that you are reckless of their welfare; and, lastly, that your House does not possess the confidence of the people. You have given to these statements the practical evidence of your division of this morning. Can any one believe that, if the factory workers had votes for members of parliament, such speeches and such votes would have been made and given as the late proceedings exhibit? and even as the franchise now is—if a speedy return to the elective voice was contemplated—would honourable members have ventured to stand before the assembled body, even of non-electors, to receive that vituperation which such conduct would justly excite? It is to remedy such grievances as these that I submit this bill to the House; and I respectfully represent to those members who voted with the noble lord, the member for Dorchester, that I have a claim both on him and them at least to permit the consideration of the subject. They declare themselves the friends of the working classes. I would ask them, did not the working classes suffer a deep wrong by the conduct I have referred to? Would they have suffered that wrong if they had the just influence in this house which the provisions I propose would produce? If they admit that they are suffering under this grievance, what other remedy can they propose than that which I offer? I tell these honourable gentlemen that the working

classes will not believe them sincere in their professions to serve them, if they withhold from them this right, which they conceive they have a just claim to—and which, above all other things, they are desirous to obtain. There are other classes of members, from whom I think I have a right to ask the consideration of the propositions I lay before them in this bill. Every member who advocates any extension of the suffrage which will include the working classes, ought not to refuse their assent to the permission for its introduction; but more especially the household suffragists, because my proposal approaches their views, by requiring previous residence as a preliminary to registration. I ask the corn-law repealers, can they expect to carry out the principles of free trade without the aid of democratic influence in the House of Commons? I have also a special claim on Irish and Scotch members—because, by the principle of equalising the franchise and the electoral districts, those two portions of the empire would obtain their due weight in the representative body, which they have not now. In connexion with the points of reform, I have stated that there are others which the people hold to be of deep importance to free representation, and, above all, the shortening the duration of parliaments. All reformers agree that the present extent of seven years, permitted by law, is utterly consistent with representative responsibility; but many honest reformers disagree about the term of duration which ought to be fixed. The people claim annual parliaments, in which I agree with them; but the exact term is a matter of detail, which would be for discussion in committee. Again, the people also demand that no other qualification for members should be required but the vote of the electors; and that members should be paid, agreeably to the original practice of the constitution; but these are details for separate consideration, and in voting for leave to bring in this bill, I ask no pledge from any member as to these details. At the same time, I think it fair honestly and candidly to state to the House, what is the full extent of the demands of the people.

IRELAND.

THE STATE TRIALS.

On Friday the court of Queen's Bench pronounced judgment on the motion for a new trial. The judges were divided in opinion.

Mr Justice Perrin, on the ground that the jury had been misdirected, and that improper evidence had been admitted, gave judgment for a new trial. "We (said the learned judge, adopting the responsibility of the charge delivered by Chief Justice Pennefather in the name of the court) have misdirected the jury."

Mr Justice Crompton followed and declared against the justice of the verdict, in regard to the Rev. Mr Tierney. So strong and decided was his conviction of the right of Mr Tierney to an acquittal, that he would prefer conceding a new trial to the entire of the traversers, sooner than that gentleman should suffer from what he deemed an unjust and illegal verdict against him.

Thus, the verdict was condemned by two of the judges, as involving a violation of justice. Those two judges differed in degree; but they both pronounced the verdict unjust and illegal.

Mr Justice Burton, on the contrary, although he admitted that the suppression of the names of special jurors might have been "somewhat disadvantageous" to the traversers, gave judgment against them, without any qualification.

Chief Justice Pennefather fully agreed with his venerable brother Burton, thus sustaining his own charge to the jury.

The Attorney-general has entered a *nolle prosequi* in regard to Mr Tierney, so that a majority of the court was secured in favour of the verdict.

On Saturday a motion was made, on behalf of the traversers, for the amendment of the *postea*, which the court were unanimous in refusing.

The court then required Sir Coleman O'Loughlen to proceed at once with his motion in arrest of judgment; but, after some discussion, it was arranged that the motion should stand for Monday morning.

Mr O'Connell was in the court on Saturday morning, and looked in excellent health and spirits.

ANOTHER FASTING MAN.—In Castlebar gaol is a man named Gallagher, under sentence of seven years' transportation, for plucking sheep, who refuses to take any food, and has absolutely fasted for eighteen or nineteen days; the only thing he has taken being a little water. The medical attendant essayed to put some milk down his throat, but when the fellow learned the doctor's intention, he screwed his teeth so tight, that to open them was impossible, and the doctor had to leave him so. He was visited by the Roman catholic chaplain, who reasoned with him on the danger of losing his soul, by having a hand in his own death. His reply was, "he did not care for his soul, and that he would as soon be damned as not," or words to that effect. He says he will neither eat nor drink until he arrives in Botany bay. He is now in the gaol hospital. It is thought that his aversion to transportation prompted him to fast, in order that, through sickness or the clemency of the executive, he might ultimately get off with imprisonment.

EXECUTION OF TWO BROTHERS.—Thomas and John Wade, convicted for murder at the last Nenagh assizes, were executed together in front of the gaol of that town. Both of the criminals confessed their guilt. The unhappy men bade each other farewell, shook hands, and kissed each other, prior to the light of heaven being shut out from them in this world. After the drop fell, Thomas Wade appeared to suffer much, but in a few minutes there was no appearance of life. John Wade died almost instantaneously.

THE MERCURIES.—It is a singular fact, that the country newspapers of the largest circulation are all named "Mercury." They are printed at Leeds, Stamford, Liverpool, Norwich, and Bristol.

THE COURT.—Yesterday, Prince Albert was to be present at the Eton Montem. During the Ascot race week, the Court will sojourn at Windsor, and it is expected that her Majesty, Prince Albert, the King of Saxony, and a brilliant retinue will attend the races.

EARL GREY.—We grieve to state that the venerable Earl is again suffering under severe illness, and several members of the family have, in consequence, arrived at Howick.

Friday night's Gazette announces the appointment of Sir Thomas Fremantle to be a Privy Councillor, and of Lord Arthur Lennox to be a Lord of the Treasury.

It is understood that Mr Sergeant Goulburn is to have the Commission of Bankruptcy, vacant by the death of Mr Merivale.—*Morning Chronicle.*

PAUPERISM.—The following is an abstract of returns just presented to parliament respecting paupers in union workhouses in England and Wales. Returns have been received from 386 unions in England, and from 24 in Wales. The number of married paupers in the workhouses of England, on the 30th of March, 1843, "who have been there above five years," was 671, and one in Wales. The number of such paupers in English union workhouses above 50, was 555, and one in Wales. The number of such paupers under 50 years of age was 116 in England, and none in Wales. 58 of such paupers in England (and none in Wales) may be considered able-bodied. There were 5,697 married paupers in the workhouses of England, and 145 in those of Wales, who had been therein less than five years. In England, 2,160 of such paupers had been admitted more than once, 1,514 twice, 750 thrice, 361 four times, 161 five times, 87 six times, 69 seven times, 52 eight times, 33 nine times, 21 ten times, 9 eleven times, 22 twelve times, 23 thirteen times, 6 fourteen times, 3 sixteen times, 15 seventeen times, 5 eighteen times, and 12 twenty times and upwards. The numbers for Wales under the same heads, are 53, 37, 11, 2, 3 (five times), and none oftener. There were 4,799 married male paupers in England who have "died in the workhouse since the passing of the Poor Law Amendment act," and 43 in Wales; while there have died 3,271 females in England, and 22 in Wales. The next return relates to absconders. In 332 unions that have sent returns in England and Wales, in 1839, 298 persons were charged with having absconded from within the workhouse, and 2,326 from without the workhouse, leaving their wives and families chargeable to the union; in 1840, the number was 299 from within, and 2,535 from without the workhouse; in 1841, 324 from within, and 2,404 from without, the workhouse; in 1842, it had increased to 2,451 from within, and 3,709 from without the workhouse; and lastly, in 1843, the number was 447 from within, and 3,600 from without the workhouse (exclusive of the returns from unions and single parishes under local and Gilbert acts). From those numbers 4,255 have been apprehended, and 3,864 became re-united to their families without being previously apprehended. Such is an abstract of returns that occupy nearly fifty folio pages of figures.

Postscript.

Wednesday, May 29th.

SOUTH LANCASHIRE ELECTION.—The morning papers contain the state of the poll to its close forwarded by special engine. Mr Entwisle, it will be seen, was elected by a majority of 594. The *Times* gives the following particulars:—

	By Entwisle's Committee.		By Brown's Committee.	
	Entwisle.	Brown.	Entwisle.	Brown.
Newton	913	504	906	507
Ashton	306	446	304	439
Bolton	702	457	703	457
Bury	480	522	468	514
Manchester ..	1674	1827	1693	1866
Oldham	256	362	256	362
Rochdale	507	654	506	654
Liverpool	1259	1444	1254	1447
Ormskirk	931	456	962	464
Wigan	496	262	495	264
Total	7524	6934	7547	6974
Majority by Mr Entwisle's committee	594			
Majority by Mr Brown's committee	573			

The declaration of the poll will be made to-morrow. From the above account it will be seen that in the Manchester districts, the seat of the League, the free trade candidate was in a majority only of about 160, while in Liverpool, where the conservatives claimed a large majority, Mr Entwisle was in a minority of 190.

CHURCH RATES, ST MARY, NEWINGTON.—The church party in this parish, having failed at Easter to obtain the sanction of the parishioners to the payment of a chaplain to the workhouse out of the poor rates, are now trying to get a church rate for the purpose. A requisition has been presented, with 515 signatures, for the summoning of a vestry to make a rate, which is summoned accordingly for Friday afternoon at 5 o'clock. Upwards of £5,000 is already paid every year by the parish of Newington to support the established church. The rector has a large income, and ought either to attend to the spiritual interests of the inmates of the workhouse himself, or provide a chaplain to do it for him. In

consequence of the decided opposition to church rates manifested by the vestry about ten years ago, no rate has been asked for since; but recently a tory board of guardians have sanctioned the payment of a chaplain out of the poor rates, in express violation of the local act of parliament, which regulates the affairs of the parish; and notwithstanding six dissenting ministers in the parish have expressed their willingness to conduct divine service in the workhouse alternately. The election of a liberal board of guardians on Easter Tuesday took away this resource, and now the expedient of a church rate is again resorted to. We hope that every dissenter and liberal churchman will be at his post on Friday, and raise his voice against the renewal of this odious impost, for so disgraceful a purpose.

THE KING OF SAXONY arrived at Dover from Ostend yesterday afternoon, and proceeded to visit the Lord Chamberlain at Buckhurst park.

SIGNS OF THE "TIMES."—The *Times* of this morning has a most singular article, serving to widen the breach, which, since the rejection of the Ten hours bill, and the systematic reviewing of "Coningsby," it has been pleased to open between itself and the conservative party. It is in search of "sincerity" in political principle, and the desire to do something for the benefit of the country, but has not found these qualifications in the party whom it usually represents. This morning the Kilmarnock election—or, rather, Mr Prinsep, the lately returned from India—is the theme of its discourse. The gist of the article is to point out that old party names and phrases will not now do. Mr Prinsep, after "a brilliant dream" of 25 years in India, comes to tell the electors of Kilmarnock, that he loves the institutions of the country for their own sake, and will never do aught to subvert them. What institutions does he love? Since his departure from England, how many of these institutions have been swept away? After pointing out these organic changes, the *Times* proceeds:—

"Our political nomenclature is insufficient—it is deceptive—it is false. It defines nothing except the temporary relations of certain people in a certain house. It embodies no principle but that of parliamentary subordination; no policy but that of party tactics. It wants soul, energy, resolution. It prompts no bold course of action; it appeals to no generous feeling; it calls forth no manly sympathy. The public ear listens not to them; they touch not the public heart. The faith of the people in legislation waxes faint."

This change may be discovered in the proceedings at the Kilmarnock election:—

"At Kilmarnock Mr Prinsep and Mr Bouverie are heard, as are Messrs Entwisle and Brown at Liverpool, with cold attention. Mr Vincent is applauded. Why? He is a charlatan. True; but it is not from any implicit faith in the secret virtues of the charter that the masses hold up their hands and raise their voices. Many of those who hold up their hands for him, and who, had they but votes, would vote for him, know that the charter cannot give them food and raiment, meat and drink, employment and wages; but they know that he is a man with a purpose—a will—a resolution to propose something, and do something, for the cause which he supports; that he will not square his vote with the measures of his party, or the pleasure of a minister; that he will not utter terms of which every day disproves his own interpretation, or profess a creed which every day induces him to accommodate to the 'necessities of the times,' or the 'interests of his political friends.' It is the appreciation of this independence—this disengagement from the conventional formularies of modern politics—which leads multitudes to admire men whose judgment is inferior to their zeal, but whose intemperance they deem compensated by honesty of purpose. Would that legislators knew the moral influence exercised over the popular mind by singleness of purpose and independence of conduct!"

THE ETON MONTM.—Yesterday the grand triennial festival of the Montem was celebrated at Eton (the chief nursery for the young sprigs of aristocracy), that peculiarly English spectacle of playing at robbers and soldiers, and showing how a fine dress and a holiday feeling warms John Bull's heart, and opens his breeches pockets. This grand entertainment, devised by the wisdom of our ancestors, and religiously kept up by the aristocracy of the present day, consists, firstly, in waving a flag; secondly, in collecting money, dubbed "salt." This salt is destined to send the head boy, or captain of the Montem—this year Mr Drake—to college, the amount varies from 800*l.* to £1,800; this year £1,600. The chief feature in the festival is the crowds of noble and fashionable persons that attend it; Prince Albert was there this year and was cheered most lustily. About twelve his Royal Highness Prince Albert, attended by Lord G. Lennox, Colonel Wyld, and Mr Anson, arrived, and was received by the provost and head master, at the Merton gate. After partaking of the provost's hospitality, the Prince took his station at the Election chamber window, where he could command a full view of the proceedings. The ceremony observed is as follows. A long procession is formed which marches round the quadrangle. The flag waving then succeeds, which having been sustained with much vigour, is followed by the "smashing of white wands," doubtless, to the boys, the most interesting part of the performance. Salt hill is then climbed, the "salt" collected, and the ceremony concludes with vociferous cheering of Prince Albert, who departs towards Slough.

THE STATE TRIALS.—The court of Queen's bench, Dublin, has decided to hear only two counsel on each side on Sir Coleman O'Loughlin's motion for arrest of judgment; so that the argument was expected to be closed to-morrow evening. When the court decides this motion, which will hardly be the case till to-day, one counsel on behalf of each traverser, now only seven in number, will be heard in mitigation of punishment, for which purpose affidavits may be filed. The Attorney-general will then be heard, if he wish it, in aggravation, so that judgment will scarcely be pronounced before Friday or Saturday.

REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—From a general expectation that this would be the last time, for a considerable period, that Mr O'Connell would appear among them, the Conciliation hall was much crowded on Monday. Sir Samuel Bradstreet, Bart, took the chair. Mr S. O'Brien handed in £100 from Savannah. Mr O'Connell said, he had to move that a bill of exchange for £178 14*s.* 9*d.* be returned to New Orleans. It was in consequence of a recommendation contained in a series of resolutions which accompanied that remittance, advising the adoption of physical force, and inculcating principles having a tendency to compromise their loyalty. It was that which obliged them to adopt the course he proposed. He then moved that an address to the people of Ireland, on the present position of the public cause, be prepared for circulation against the passing of the sentence, prefacing it with a long speech, inculcating peace, but containing nothing new. In the course of his speech he said:—"So long as he lived, the connexion between the two countries should be maintained, and he thought that shortening his life was not the way to lengthen the connexion [hear, hear]. His opinion was, that if the union were not repealed in his lifetime it would be disavowed by force, and the flag foremost in the battle would be one having inscribed on it, 'The Monster Trial' [loud cheering]. Mr Smith O'Brien, in seconding the adoption of the address, observed, that the imprisonment of Mr O'Connell would sever the link which binds Ireland to England, and he would not bring himself to believe that the government would have the madness to incarcerate him till he should be summoned to accompany him (Mr O'Connell) to gaol. Much as they would deplore the absence of Mr O'Connell and his gifted son, yet it would be found that there were men amongst the members of the Association, capable of guiding the destinies of the country [cheers]. Amount of rent for the week, £550.

FRANCE.—The *National* announces, in terms of deep regret, the demise of the celebrated banker and deputy, Jacques Laffitte, which took place on Sunday evening. M. Laffitte had attained the age of seventy-seven years. M. Charles Laffitte was re-elected for the fourth time, on Sunday, deputy for Louviers. Every one was looking forward with anxiety for the debate on the affairs of Tahiti, which was to commence on Monday. The Armoricain, of Brest, had just arrived at Brest, from Tahiti, but the contents of her letters were not yet known. Among the passengers was M. Gosse, the writer of the first account of the proceedings at Tahiti, which was published in the *Débat*. He died at sea in the course of the voyage. The *Constitutionnel* says that it is assured that M. Guizot has protested, in the name of France, against the annexation of Texas to the United States.

SPAIN.—Accounts from Madrid state that the Carlist chief, La Coba, who kept the Maestrazgo for Don Carlos since 1833, and two of his officers, had been taken prisoners and shot. General Zurbano had returned to Spain, and would probably receive the command of a division in the projected expedition against Morocco. The *Comercio*, of Cadiz, announces that a force of 5,000 or 6,000 Moors, provided with artillery, had approached the walls of Ceuta.

SWITZERLAND.—By accounts from the theatre of civil war in Switzerland, of the 22nd inst, there was a probability that peace would soon be restored in the Valais. The point at issue between the belligerent parties was simply this:—The democrats of Montigny accuse the aristocrats of Sion, or Upper Valais, of conspiring with the Vorort against their independence, and the latter charge the Lower Valaisians with the committing of excesses which render a federal intervention inevitable. This last course, however, is opposed by the majority of the cantons, as an attempt against their privileges, and, if persisted in, may create a general agitation throughout Switzerland.

ITALY.—The Pope has addressed a letter to the Roman catholic archbishops and bishops, calling their attention to the efforts which are being made by various bible societies, and particularly by the Christian society of New York, to produce religious dissent in Italy. A letter in the *Times*, referring to the state of the country, says:—"It must be admitted that a great and generally spread discontent prevails in Italy, Tuscany excepted, and that if great changes do not speedily take place in the different administrations, events unfortunate for this country, and perhaps for Europe, cannot fail to arise."

UNITED STATES.—By the arrival of the Hibernia at Liverpool, we learn that there had been dreadful riots in Philadelphia, in which upwards of 50 people had been killed and wounded, and attended with great loss of property by fire. The proposed reduction in the tariff had been negatived in Congress, by 105 to 99, and no abatement in the present protective duties can for some time be expected. The Texas treaty is yet before the senate; but as it is well understood that it will find no favour there, all anxiety about its fate has ceased. It will be rejected by a very large vote.

CORN MARKET. MARK LANE. THIS DAY.

	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Beans	Peas	Flour.
English ..	1210	100	700			
Scotch						
Irish			3750			
Foreign ..	9030	4000	1660			

The market is flat, but at present there is no alteration from Monday's prices.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"W. B. H." Jail.
 "B. B." The matter is only one of inference, not of unquestionable fact.
 Our Gateshead correspondent may, we think, take it for granted, that the quibble in Mr Christopherson's letter, to which he refers, could deceive no one. The discourse has excited mingled sensations of pity and disgust.
 "A Complete Suffragist" declined.
 "Sylvanus" declined, with thanks.
 "A. J." We are exceedingly sorry we did not preserve the copy he sent us.
 We have several letters in type which, owing to the press of matter this week, must unavoidably stand over.

RECEIVED FOR PIGGOTT.

Mr E. S. Pryce, Abingdon2s. 6d.
 Mr J. H. White, Cirencester2 6

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The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 1844.

SUMMARY.

WHITSUN WEEK! A week of universal holiday to all who can afford it. Parliament can afford it, of course, for parliament holds in its hands the national purse. What it has done hitherto to earn even a week's recess it would be difficult to state with precision; but, as all their services are gratuitous, the country is left without any further satisfaction than that of grumbling at an unconscionable waste of time. Epsom races and Whitsun holidays will therefore cut short our summary; for "it's an ill wind that blows nobody any good." We have little upon which to comment, and that little is devoid of interest.

Is Mr Hume contemplating an advancement, or is the fit of economy so strong upon him that the chance of saving makes him careless as to what class of men may reap benefit therefrom? On Thursday he moved for an address to the Queen, that her Majesty will be pleased to give directions that, whenever her Majesty shall grant the honour of the peerage, or baronetcy, or knighthood, or order, for eminent public services, no fees shall be charged thereon. Now, taking into account the kind of services which is usually deemed worthy of such honorary distinctions, and the class of men upon whom they are customarily conferred, we think it not unmeet that the glittering baubles should be paid for, and that by those who aspire to their possession. It is true in the case of the King of Prussia, as well as in some instances connected with our own officers, the country has been called upon to pay the expense. To this arrangement we have, in common with Mr Hume, a weighty objection; and, if the terms of his motion aimed at nothing more than the abolition of this practice, much might be said in its behalf.

On the same evening Mr Christie made an ineffectual attempt to bring on his motion affecting our English universities, but, according to a custom prevalent in our days, the House was counted out.

On Friday Mr Villiers again postponed his annual motion for the repeal of the corn laws, threatening, in case of another disappointment, to bring it forward in the shape of an amendment, on going into committee of supply. We are now close upon the commencement of June, and parliament has been sitting ever since the beginning of February. Mr Villiers, and those who act with him, doubtless have their reasons for driving off this discussion to the far end of the session, but we confess we have never been able to see the policy of it. It appears to us well calculated to damp the ardour of supporters, and to give courage to an already too-powerful antagonist. Had Mr Villiers fought with Sharman Crawford's weapon, we are convinced he would have done more to have stimulated the energies of the repeal ranks throughout the country, than all the meetings, brilliant though they have been, which have been held during the season in Covent Garden theatre.

The House subsequently went into a committee of supply upon the Colonial and Miscellaneous Estimates. We shall not detain our readers with any enumeration of items. Upon one class of them we have made a few remarks in another column.

The only matter worthy of notice that has occupied the House of Lords, is a personal affair of Lord Brougham's anent the Lancaster and Carlisle railway bill. It appears that this railway passes near his property, and when the bill was before the Lords for the third reading, he procured the insertion of a clause compelling the company to set up gates for him where they could have no-

thing to do with the railroad. The clause was rejected by the Commons, and the bill sent back, thus amended, to the upper House. On Thursday night the Marquis of Clanricarde moved, that the Commons' amendment be agreed to. Lord Brougham became furious—made a fierce attack on the opposition, whose conduct he attributed to feelings of spleen towards himself, and finally launched forth into a general assault on the late whig ministry. After this unbecoming display of ill temper, which was severely commented on by the Marquis of Clanricarde, the bill was passed; Lord Brougham entering his protest against it, and winding up the scene by holding out a threat to the Railway Company. Alas! that Henry Brougham should have come to this!

Several elections have come off, or are in progress. Buckingham has returned Sir T. F. Fremantle, and Chichester has re-elected Lord A. Lennox. Our postscript will probably contain a statement of the result of the election in South Lancashire. It appears that, on the first day's poll, Mr Entwisle, the anti-league and conservative candidate has a majority of between 300 and 400. This is certainly ominous of the issue. It can hardly be anticipated that Mr Brown will wipe off so high a score against him. Of Kilmarnock, the accounts which have hitherto reached us are most cheering, and point to the triumph of Henry Vincent. The nomination was decided in his favour, not only by a majority, but by such a majority as to place his opponents in a ridiculous light; and we are sanguine in the expectation of being able to announce to our readers, next week, that the complete suffrage candidate has been returned for Kilmarnock. Meanwhile, we refer them to the report of proceedings given in another place.

It is just possible that the Irish state trials may be brought to a close this week. On Friday the Court of Queen's Bench gave judgment on the motion for a new trial. The Chief Justice and Mr Justice Burton decided against it. Mr Justice Crampton was of opinion that the application for a new trial ought to be granted to Mr Tierney; whilst Mr Justice Perrin thought that the motion ought to be conceded, as far as concerns Mr O'Connell also. Such is the personal distribution of the decision. The effect of it is, that a new trial is refused to all the defendants. In consequence, however, of Mr Justice Crampton's declaration, that unless a *nolle prosequi* were entered as respects Mr Tierney, he would be prepared to grant him a new trial, at the risk of awarding a new trial to all; the proceedings have been stayed in that gentleman's case. On Monday Sir Colman O'Loughlin was to make a motion in arrest of judgment, but the judges were expected to set it aside very speedily, so that there is a probability of the sentence of the Court against the traversers being delivered to-day or to-morrow.

The only article of foreign news consists unhappily of insurrections and rumours of insurrections. In Switzerland a civil war has broken out, the precise cause or extent of which it is impossible as yet, in consequence of insufficiency of information, accurately to define. The scene of warfare is the Valais, which is suffering all the horrors of a civil war. The insurrection is carried on by a party called "Young Switzerland," but they have been defeated by the government troops, and are likely by this time to have dispersed. In Hayti the black population have risen against the mulattoes, and the island is the scene of confusion and bloodshed. Conspiracies one after another have been discovered among the slaves of Cuba, who, driven to desperation by the merciless cruelties of General O'Donnell, Narvaez's new governor, have, at Matanzas, openly rebelled.

THE ELECTIONS IN PROGRESS.

A SOMEWHAT novel doctrine has been recently broached by the leading advocates of free trade—a doctrine, the extreme narrowness of which is especially open to remark, and the unsoundness of which seems about to be illustrated by the upshot of the elections now in progress in South Lancashire and Kilmarnock. It may be summed up in a few words. It amounts to this—that they who would serve a great cause must look, in their choice of candidates to represent it in parliament, solely to the opinions held in reference to that cause—that it is the part of wisdom to put out of view the general political principles which such candidates may embrace or profess—that it matters nothing, if only their views of commercial policy be sound, to what party they may belong, or what votes on other questions they may be likely to give—and that electors imbued with the genuine free trade spirit may very properly overlook all other qualifications in the man who solicits their suffrage, but the single one of zeal for the abolition of the corn laws. This question, it appears, is to be the Aaron's rod of the political world, which is to swallow up all the rest. Monopoly is to be encountered in the spirit of monopoly—and a one-eyed legion is to win the prize.

We demur to this doctrine. We believe it to be philosophically, morally, and practically untrue. We are persuaded that it is instinct with the worst

spirit—and, if it could extensively prevail, we are sure it would be productive of the most disastrous results. Happily, we have no great fear that the noxious exotic will become acclimated in the British empire. It is unsuited to English common sense. It may find a precarious life in this or that locality—but the mind of the country, we are convinced, will reject it.

There is a half-concealed insincerity in it which marks it out for reprobation. It puts a show of opinion foremost, to the utter disregard of character. It excludes altogether from notice those elements of consideration which have usually been made available for determining the probabilities or improbabilities of future consistency. Ordinarily it has been the practice, in estimating the sincerity of a man's opinions on a given subject, to compare them with his avowed conclusions on more general points—to inquire whether his special professions are of a piece with his cherished principles—to ascertain whether his agreement with us in one particular grows out of his agreement with us in others, or is merely a freak of his mental nature, for which we cannot rationally account, and upon which we should be foolish to depend. All great truths are contiguous—perhaps we may more correctly say, are but the differing aspects of a still greater truth. He who rightly holds one will be in a fair way, at least, of holding all; and, wherever he fails, the failure may be traced up, not to his idiosyncrasy, or peculiar mental habits, but to the force of some disturbing influence, to which he is more than others exposed. But he who holds only one, and most determinately rejects the rest, may properly be regarded as not holding even that one rightly. The accident of his position, or the current of his interests, will better account for his being right in this one instance, than the integrity of his judgment or the benevolence of his heart. Circumstances have drifted him down to a spot which, although he may inhabit, is not his proper home. He is not to be relied upon. His avowed principles are obviously inconsistent with each other; and, should opportunity serve, he will inevitably resign, with no unwilling hand, the opinions which are foreign to the whole bent of his nature.

There is another consideration which it is of some moment to keep before us. Men are responsible just in proportion to the largeness of the views they may happen to entertain, and out of their perception of every truth having a moral bearing, there arises a class of duties in relation to that truth. It is quite a mistake to suppose that we are at liberty to shut our eyes to every other obligation, in order that we may the more effectually discharge one, however important. No individual is entitled to trample upon one set of his principles, with the view to exalt another to the summit of triumph. An advocate of free trade is doubtless bound to promote free trade by all legitimate means—but he greatly deceives himself if he imagines that he is free also to resort to those which are illegitimate. He has no right to inflict misery of one kind upon his fellow men, that he may augment their happiness of another kind—no right whatever to wink at falsehood in one direction, that truth may speed in another—no right to give influence to general wrong-doing, because he fancies he may thereby compass a particular deed of justice. A free-trading candidate may be a tory—and if he were such, say the leading advocates of corn-law abolition, we would cheerfully support him. What! Is it come to this? Shall a man whose governing principles of policy we hold to be destructive of human enjoyment—whose aim it is to make the many subservient to the few—whose whole course will develop itself in efforts to strengthen that very aristocracy who enacted the corn laws—who will perpetuate the curse of an ecclesiastical establishment—who will sanction all the atrocities of the present war system—whose whole parliamentary life will be devoted to uphold a lie—shall that man be placed, and placed by us, who see the tendency of his principles, in a position to give them practical effect, merely that we may use him, and the power which we give him, to carry out a favourite project of our own? We ask not whether this be wise—but whether it be moral? He who knowingly encourages evil does wickedness, whatever may be his object—and if the League really intend to pursue their great design by means so palpably improper, they can hardly anticipate Heaven's benediction on their labours.

The maxim will turn out in practice quite as unfortunate as it is in theory absurd. The South Lancashire and Kilmarnock elections will, we doubt not, do something to prove this. We know not as yet how either of them will terminate—but we see, in the one case, a considerable amount of zeal for free trade checked by the unsatisfactory political professions of the candidate—and in the other, all the enthusiasm which the fervent enunciation of great and generous principles lights up, adding fresh warmth of attachment to the cause of free trade. Mr Brown, the League candidate for South Lancashire, possesses many adventitious advantages. He is a man of immense wealth. He is well known throughout the district which he aims

to represent. He is supported by all the force of the Anti-corn-law League. He is fighting a free-trade battle, upon what may be regarded as peculiarly free-trade ground. And yet all present indications threaten him with defeat. Mr Vincent, on the other hand, goes to Kilmarnock as a stranger. He has neither wealth nor rank to recommend him. He carries with him nothing but a heart imbued with great and vital principles, and a tongue capable of giving eloquent utterance to them. He is opposed by the son of a radical peer, professing free-trade principles, but almost nothing else. How Mr Bouverie may fare with the electors, yet remains to be seen; but it is certain there is no enthusiasm in his favour. And herein lies the great practical mistake. The supposition that the constituencies of this country will be won back from a usurping oligarchy by the power of free-trade principles alone, proves, as we have often attempted to show, a great defect in the knowledge of human nature. The great bulk of the community must be moved by something broader, deeper, fuller, and far more universally applicable, than the question of the corn laws. We therefore grieve to see a continued disposition manifested in high quarters, to keep that question in a state of perfect isolation, and to recognise, in a simple profession of desire for repeal, virtue enough to atone for a denial of every other just and enlightened principle of policy, and for the infliction, in other shapes, of any amount of distress upon mankind. It will not succeed, simply forasmuch as it ought not to succeed.

THE LATE HOUR SYSTEM.

WHILE the public mind has been agitated with the discussion of the Ten-hours bill, having for its object the reduction of the hours of factory labour by legislative interference, it is singular that plans should be in operation throughout the country for bringing about the same result by means of the voluntary principle. Thus these two great opposing principles—voluntarism and compulsion—have been once again brought into antagonism; and we have not the smallest fear that the issue will prove as satisfactory as when their relative value has been tested in the support of religions, and, in a recent instance, for the promotion of national education.

The agitation in favour of the compulsory reduction of the hours of employment in one important branch of labour has not succeeded. The legislature has, in this instance, refused to incur the responsibility of exercising that "paternal" control over the affairs of the nation, which it has generally been forward in vindicating and usurping. The question of legislative interference with labour, for some time to come at least, has been set at rest. It has been sought to bring about an end highly desirable by objectionable means; and the attempt having failed, it remains to be seen whether the desired object may not be secured by the adoption of such measures as are open to no dispute.

The movement for voluntarily abridging the hours of labour thus asserts an additional claim upon the sympathy and support of all interested in maintaining the supremacy of moral force, and preserving intact the social rights of the community. By this means it will be seen whether the voluntary principle is as well adapted to be used as an instrument for curing the maladies of our social system as it is for meeting the requirements of religion and education.

We are gratified in observing that the success which has attended the agitation of this question has been such as to hold out the prospect of the complete realisation of its object at no very distant period. Taking into consideration the formidable opposition it has had to encounter, in the shape of deep-rooted prejudice, the force of habit, and, above all, a short-sighted selfishness, we cannot but congratulate those who have laboured so long in this great enterprise—more especially the Metropolitan Drapers' Association—on the favourable issue of their exertions thus far. The question has gained a thorough hold of the popular feeling. We scarcely take up a provincial journal without finding some reference to it in the shape of a leading article, correspondence, or an occasional paragraph. From one town we learn that the drapers have consented to reduce the hours of business—from another, that the shoemakers have pronounced in its favour. Here the grocer, there the hatter, finds he can fall into the system without detriment—in short, throughout the trading community, the system is daily creeping into favour, and being adopted in practice. Only a few days since we read of a committee in Liverpool, organised to carry out this object, meeting at six o'clock in the morning; and of the Lord Mayor of London giving forth sound advice on the same subject to the citizens over whom he presides. As far as the metropolis is concerned, one need only wend his way through the leading thoroughfares of the City after eight o'clock in the evening, to receive ocular demonstration that the slavery of the late hour system has been done away with in many of its leading trading establishments.

We see not why a scheme, thus successfully

prosecuted among tradesmen, might not be carried out through all branches of industry. There are, doubtless, more formidable difficulties to encounter in bringing the same principle to bear for the amelioration of what are technically termed "the working classes." But are they insurmountable? Is our foreign trade so precarious that, in spite of the immense superiority of British artisans, a voluntary reduction of the hours of employment by the master manufacturers would expose it to utter annihilation? Such can scarcely be the opinion of Mr Cobden, confessedly one of the most experienced of manufacturers, when he advises the agitation of the question in the public mind irrespective of legislative interference. However this may be, there is no doubt that the hours of labour might be safely abridged in the manufacturing districts under a system of free trade; the selfishness of an irresponsible oligarchy proving in this, as in other instances, the only bar to the improvement of the social condition of the masses.

Very much, however, yet remains to be done to secure the universal shortening of the hours of labour, even among shop-keepers, whose interests, it must be allowed, cannot be permanently injured by the change. A great deal, doubtless, may be accomplished by the diffusion of correct information through the medium of the press, the holding of public meetings, and individual exertion. But, after all, success depends, not so much upon the exertions of shopmen as upon the decision of the public. On this point we commend to the earnest attention of our readers the following excellent advice, extracted from an article in *Chambers' Edinburgh Journal*. By carrying out its suggestion, they may assist in promoting, in no small degree, the moral, intellectual, and social improvement of a large portion of their fellow-countrymen.

The public must cease to resort to shops after an early hour of the evening, otherwise there can be no early shop-shutting. And this is simply because there is a minority of dissentients and greedy men, who will keep open later if there be a flow of custom, and who thus compel others to keep open too, so that any resolution of the majority to close early would soon be broken through. Obviously, the only means of inducing the minority to conform to the practice of the majority, is to convince them that it is not for their interest to keep open beyond a certain early hour. And this the public can do by simply refraining from the purchase of articles at shops after that certain hour, and by discountenancing in every other way those who attempt to protract business beyond it. We call, then, upon the public, to act in this manner. Humanity towards a class of their fellow-creatures demands that they should abstain from resorting to shops after the certain hour alluded to: they are required to look upon this as a moral duty, which it really is, since such important interests depend upon it. Let every master and mistress, every servant, every person from the highest to the lowest rank, receive this as a branch of the grand law of love to our neighbour—TRADE NOT AT LATE HOURS.

General News.

FOREIGN.

FRANCE.

The pamphlet of the Prince de Joinville continues to be the foremost topic in the French papers. The *Spectator* gives the following history of events in connexion with it:—

"Louis Philippe is troubled with a naughty boy, who is out of bounds among politicians, pamphleteers, and opposition agitators. The Prince de Joinville, it appears, abetted Admiral Dupetit Thouars, that bugbear to Queen Pomaré before her lying-in; and the Prince threatened to resign his commission as rear-admiral because ministers refused to ratify M. Dupetit Thouars's peculiar style of bullying. The tears of his aged mother, however, subdued the wrong-headed youth; the scandal was prevented; and instead of resigning he only went out of town in a huff. But he wrote a pamphlet, to prove that France ought to be prepared to go to war at sea—with England, for example. There is nothing further from his wish than a war with England; only France should get and keep the weather-gauge of us, and be prepared at a moment's notice to destroy our confidence in our marine, in our commerce, and in our insular position—in short, to drub and scare us. Being relatively thus placed, France is magnanimously to vouchsafe peace. Of course, the young Admiral's essay attracted some notice here: the *Times* laughed at it; and the *Morning Chronicle* called it 'a buccaneer brochure.' This redoubles the clamour among the French press—who think the Prince 'misconceived,' as he only prepares for war to maintain peace, and by no means merits the anti-Gallican asperities of his English critics. The ministerial *Journal des Débats* first contented itself with copying the English strictures, but at last read the royal pamphleteer a respectful lecture on his indiscretion. The ultra-opposition, on the other hand, are not thoroughly conciliated even by the Prince's anti-British demonstration, because he excuses the French minister's reluctance to declare war with England in 1840! So the fasciculus has actually revived a kind of war hubbub, when there is nothing to go to war about."

The affair of the Prince of Joinville is completely arranged. The prince has even made a movement towards a reconciliation with M. Guizot. It appears that he did not go to Compeigne after his quarrel with the King, but to Versailles, where he found leisure to cool his heels. He returned late the same evening to Neuilly, and it was on the solicitation of the Queen and the Duchess of Orleans that he agreed not to resign his commission. It appears now that the brochure was communicated to the King and all the members of the royal family before

publication. The Duke de Nemours (who was stated to have quarreled with his brother on account of the pamphlet) is said to have even made alterations in some passages, and the King himself modified some of the expressions.

The *Constitutionnel* says:—"General Delarue is to set out this day for Africa, on a special mission to the Duke d'Aumale. The motive of this mission, it is said, is to lend the support of a military experience, calm and reflective, to the ardent courage of the young prince, less accessible to the counsels of prudence than to the desire of glory and danger."

On Friday the Chamber of Peers, after a debate of no less than twenty-seven days, got through all the clauses of the Secondary Instruction bill, and ultimately passed the whole bill by a majority of 85 votes to 51. The narrowness of the majority has excited surprise, and shows how much the ecclesiastical party gained in the course of this protracted debate.

SWITZERLAND.

We learn by a telegraphic despatch received at Paris on Wednesday, that serious disturbances have broken out in the canton of Valais, in Switzerland. This canton lies between the Simplon and the Lake of Geneva, and is divided into two districts, called the Upper and Lower Valais, which for years have shown great hostility to each other from religious as well as civil disputes. The inhabitants of the Lower Valais, in concert with the liberal party in the Upper Valais, "la Jeune Suisse," are in open warfare; and their opponents in the Upper have called for the intervention of the Vorort.

A letter from Lausanne, written in the afternoon of the 21st, says:—

"We learn that the forces of the Upper Valais are already beyond Martigny, and that they are burning everything as they proceed. Epiney was inflamed when the account left. The Council of State of the Vaud has sent off all its disposable force for the protection of the frontier, as there is reason to fear that an attempt will be made to violate it."

The accounts from Switzerland received in Paris, come down to the 22d instant inclusive. Several engagements had taken place between the belligerents, but it was believed that the contest would be immediately terminated by the interference of the troops of the government.

The *Press* observes, that notwithstanding the extreme conciseness of the only telegraphic despatch published by the French government relative to the disturbances in the canton of Valais, it is yet the only authentic intelligence received from that quarter. The journals and private letters received from Switzerland are written in too confused a style to give an accurate account of the situation of affairs. It appears manifest, however, that the aristocratic party of Upper Valais, and that of the democracy in Lower Valais, commit excesses that are unknown except in a sanguinary civil war.

WEST INDIES.

The *Jamaica Despatch* of April 23rd announces the arrival of eight hundred refugees from Hayti, where the utmost confusion still prevailed; the insurrection having spread to Jeremie, and perhaps to Jacmel.

The *Manchester Guardian*, on the authority of a private letter from Port-au-Prince, 23rd April, contradicts the accounts given by the Jamaica papers of a shocking massacre, said to have been committed by the negroes upon the coloured people at Aux Cayes.

Down to the 19th ult., Cuba was also in the greatest disorder, with an insurrection of Blacks; whose chief operations, however, were confined to Matanzas. Four hundred insurgents had been seized and lodged in prison, charged with attempting a general rising of the negroes.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

GREECE.—Accounts from Athens, May 6, state that an extraordinary ensation has been created by the discovery, a few days ago, of a secret society, with ramifications, not only over all Greece, but in Macedonia, Thessaly, and Epirus. It is called "The Grand Brotherhood," and its principal object is to subvert the government and the existing order of things, under the mask of religion and liberation of the fatherland. Some of the Athenian journals have published the bye-laws and oaths to be taken by the members. The association is mostly attributed to the Nappist or Russian party.

FRENCH RAILWAYS.—As the French railways have become objects of general attention in this country, some account of their present position will be acceptable. The bills now before the French Chambers, and which are expected to be passed this session, are these:—

1. The line from Paris to the Belgian frontier at Lisle, with branches to Dunkirk, Calais, and Boulogne.
2. From Orleans to Vierzon.
3. From Paris to Dijon and Chalons, commonly called the Paris and Lyons line.
4. From Orleans, through Tours, to Bordeaux.
5. From Montpellier to Nîmes.

All these have been considered in committee, and the reports are about to be presented this week. Leases will be granted this session for all of them. On Wednesday last the minister of public works presented the four following additional bills, comprising about 500 leagues of railway:—

6. An extension of the Orleans and Vierzon line to Chateauroux and Limoges to the south-west, and to Bourges and Clermont on the south-east, the utmost limits to which the lines through the centre of France are proposed to be carried, because of the physical difficulties of the districts.
7. The extension of the west line from Tours to Nantes.

8. An extension of the Paris and Versailles line (left bank) to Chartres, with a view to the ultimate extension to Le Mans, Laval, Rennes, and probably to Brest, thus completing a great north-western line, which was not included in the general law of June, 1842.

9. The line from Paris to the German frontier at Homburg, commonly called the Paris and Strasburg line.

In the four last-mentioned lines the minister merely asks a vote for the construction of the works, deferring the authority to grant leases to another year. It was expected that the line from Bordeaux to Toulouse and Marseilles (to unite the Atlantic with the Mediterranean), and the line from Lyons, southward, to Avignon, would have been included in the presentations this session, but they are definitively postponed till next year, although a company was actually formed, and the capital subscribed, for the latter, who asked the land for the seat of the railway as the only assistance required from the state.

THE AFRICAN GUANO ISLAND.—ICHABOE.—The island whence the guano is taken, is about three miles from the shore, on the south-west coast of Africa. It is a barren rock, about a mile in circumference; has no soil, or the least sign of vegetation. The guano lies to the depth of about 20 feet, and without any variation in quality. The continent is very sandy, and in high winds (hurricanes, for instance), will cover a ship's deck nearly 100 miles from the land. The birds are a kind of penguin, and cannot fly to any distance, if at all, their wings being a kind of fin. It is believed that the captain of the vessel (said to be Mr Parr, of the Anne, of Bristol), who brought the guano, was the first human being who set foot on the island, which is very difficult to approach, there being no harbour, and a heavy surf. On walking on it, he could scarcely set his foot without treading on the birds, and they took no notice whatever of him, except pecking at his feet, he being barefoot; and on a gun being fired, they merely fluttered a good deal, and made much noise. There is no fresh water, it is believed, for some hundreds of miles along the coast, and no rain.—*Edinburgh New Philosophical Journal*.

A NEW EPIDEMY.—Rome, May 6.—We are daily apprehensive here of the breaking out of an epidemic which, during several weeks past, has spread terror over a portion of the states of the church. Its ravages are not confined to the valleys and other low parts of the country; on the contrary, it rages more especially among the inhabitants of mountainous districts. In the little town of Tivoli, containing about 9,000 inhabitants, 90 persons died in the space of a week. The malady is generally supposed to be contagious, but of this fact there is no positive proof. In every case in which post mortem examination has taken place there has been found congestion of the brain, as prior to, and in, apoplexy. It appears to be the same complaint which has recently prevailed in Naples and Sicily under the name of *torcicollo*. It is clearly traceable to atmospheric causes.—*Frankfort Zeitung*.

GERMANY.—A letter from Frankfort, of the 15th May, says—"The Legislative Assembly has to-day ratified the treaty between the German Customs Union and the United States of North America."

MINISTERIAL SCANDAL IN FRANCE.—The following is extracted from the *Sentinelle de l'Armée*:—"Morals are nearly on a level with what they were under the regime of the *Ciel de Bauff*, except that vice is now less elegant and more hypocritical. In the same manner as during the period of La Pompadour and Dubarry, petticoat influence is particularly felt in military promotion. Certain ministerial cabinets are transformed into boudoirs, where more amorous intrigues are discussed than state affairs. Certain favours are made the price of the most shameful complaisances, and there is no hesitation in telling a woman that if she wishes that her friend should be promoted, she must come herself, and alone, to remind the protector. We could add a long and curious chapter to the 'Mysteries of Paris,' if we published all that has reached our personal knowledge."

ITALY.—A letter in the *Times* dated "Malta, May 15," gives the following intelligence:—"The Palermo arrived here on the 12th inst., and brings alarming accounts of the state of public feeling throughout Italy, but more especially in Calabria, where the most revolting and bloody tragedies have been enacted. Nor is the feeling confined to the lower orders of the people. The navy and the army are equally dissatisfied with the rule of despotism, and have deserted."

SOMNAMBULISM IN SYRIA.—A Smyrna journal gives the following extraordinary account of a somnambulist:—"In the capital of the island of Syra there is a young man from a town on the border of the Black Sea, aged about eighteen years, tall in stature, and of robust constitution, who went to Syra about nine months ago to follow his studies at the Gymnasium. It frequently happens that almost immediately after falling asleep, he gets up and makes remarkable declamations. Sometimes he recites very long speeches from Xenophon with perfect correctness, although when awake he cannot remember more than a few lines. One night he wrote the theme he had to deliver the next day. In the morning, having overslept himself, he was vexed at not having time to prepare himself for his tutor; but great was his astonishment at finding on his table his stipulated composition, written with his own hand, folded, and ready to be given in. The professor was surprised at finding it so well done, and still more so when the young scholar became embarrassed, and unable to answer certain questions put to him on the subject. Doubts were entertained as to its being his own work; but a companion who slept in the same room with him came voluntarily forward, and declared that in the night he saw his

fellow student seated at the table writing, and calling upon his father to assist him in composing his theme. When in a state of somnambulism he plays at cards, and uniformly wins. This is attributed to his having the faculty at that time of knowing what cards are in the hands of the rest of the party. When in this state also he has been taken by his companions to a tavern, and when, after eating and drinking with them, he awoke, he was greatly astonished at finding himself where he was. It appears that in his somnolent state his sense of feeling is entirely suspended, while all the other senses are alive and active. At first the slightest touch would wake him, but now he is totally insensible to any violence, even that which would, in others, or in himself when awake, produce acute pain. In general, on coming out of his state of somnambulism, he is so weak and languid as to faint away. One fact is more extraordinary than the rest. One day, when in his dormant state, he announced that three persons, whom he named, were coming to see him. In an hour after these three persons entered his room."

DOMESTIC.

METROPOLITAN.

THE NATIONAL ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE.—The League held its weekly meeting on Wednesday evening, at Covent Garden theatre, when, as usual, every part of the house was crowded. Major-general Briggs, who was announced by the secretary as the late free-trade candidate at the election for the city of Exeter, took the chair, and in opening the business of the evening informed the meeting that Mr Mark Philips, the member for Manchester, was prevented by illness from being present. The assembly was very ably addressed by Mr S. Green, baptist minister, Mr R. Taylor, Mr G. Thompson, and Mr W. J. Fox. One feature in the meeting was several references by the speakers to the necessity of organic reform, and the enthusiasm with which those sentiments were received by the meeting. The following is an extract from Mr Green's speech:—"Let the public be taught to go to the legislature and say—this change must be brought about. Until this was done monopoly would not be effectually overwhelmed. There was another stronghold of monopoly—the church establishment. Tithes were a charge upon the land, which was calculated upon the average price of the produce for a certain number of years. That necessarily made the clergy unwilling to lower the price of human food. Another ground of fear was the want of a full and fair representation of the people in parliament [loud cheers]. What was the inference? Why, that they should exert all their endeavours to create a full and fair representation [great cheering]. Let them not record a vote except in favour of a free-trader [cheers]. Let them do everything in their power to make the House of Commons a full, free, and effectual representation of the public mind [loud applause]. Mr Thompson vindicated himself at considerable length from the charge of inconsistency which had been brought against him, in consequence of his having advocated the admission of slave-grown sugar, while he, at the same time, professed to desire the abolition of slavery. He entertained all his former opinions against slavery, and would maintain them; but he warned the abolitionists against placing in the hands of this or any other government such an argument against free-trade as had lately been advanced on the score of encouraging slave-grown produce. Had not Sir R. Peel been able to lay on the table of the House of Commons a memorial, with the venerable name of Thomas Clarkson attached, he would have been without the most powerful argument he had used against the principle for which the League was contending. The Chairman announced the next meeting for this evening, and the assemblage separated at half-past ten o'clock, with three cheers, and one cheer more, for the League."

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING THE EDUCATION OF THE POOR.—The general annual meeting of this society for promoting the education of the poor in the principles of the established church, was held on Wednesday last in the Central school-rooms, Sanctuary, Westminster. The archbishop of Canterbury presided; and among those present were several bishops and noblemen. The room was crowded to excess, and the audience included a large number of fashionably attired ladies. The Bishop of London commenced the proceedings by reading several prayers from the Liturgy. The examination of a number of the children educated in the schools was then proceeded with (conducted principally by the Bishop of London), in scriptural knowledge, in the doctrines of the established church, geography, English grammar, history, and arithmetic. The *Times* says that the answers were generally ready and correct; and the examination was most satisfactory, and highly creditable to the conductors of the schools. The children went through some vocal exercises, under the direction of Mr Hullah, and sang several chants and other musical pieces, in which they acquitted themselves greatly to the satisfaction of the company. The secretary then read the report, which was very lengthy, and stated, amongst other statistics, that the money raised from "Queen's letters," and other sources, amounted to £150,435. The principal efforts of the society appeared to be directed to the establishment of model and training schools; but in addition to this during the last six months—"accommodation had been obtained for 43,643 scholars; 55 schools had received aid towards their temporary maintenance; 22 Sunday-schools had been opened for daily instruction; and through teachers' residences, and other important channels, elementary

education in the manufacturing and mining districts had been furnished with numerous additional means and appliances." The report also furnished the following statistical facts relative to the parliamentary vote for education, which were collected out of the last volume of minutes of the committee of council:—There had been 277 applications for aid from national schools; 13 from British schools; and 1 from a Wesleyan school. The grants awarded had been, to the national schools, £30,563 15s.; British, £2,202; Wesleyan, £85.

THE DUKE OF SUSSEX TITLE, &c.—In the House of Peers, on Thursday, a committee for privileges sat to consider the claim of Sir Augustus Frederick D'Este to succeed to his father as Duke of Sussex, Earl of Inverness, and Baron Arklow. The counsel for the claimant were, Sir Thomas Wilde, Mr Erle, and Mr Wilde; the claim was watched on the part of the crown by the Attorney-general, the Solicitor-general, and Mr Waddington. The facts of the case are too well known to need minute recapitulation. In 1792, Prince Augustus, the son of George the Third, then twenty years of age, was traveling for his health in Italy. At Rome he met with the Countess of Dunmore and her two daughters, Augusta and Virginia. With Lady Augusta Murray, who was six or seven years older than himself, he fell violently in love; and he urged her to marry him privately. She was reluctant: but he threatened to starve himself—he wrote to her that he had actually fasted for forty-eight hours: she yielded; and they were privately married by Mr Gunn, an English clergyman, in 1793. Mr Gunn, fearing the displeasure of his diocesan, enjoined them to keep his name secret: but the consequences of marriage becoming apparent, the couple were again married, by banns, in 1793, at St George's, Hanover square; a marriage admitted to be legally invalid. Then followed the discovery of their union, the discountenance of the King, the separation of the lovers, and finally their estrangement; two children having been born—Augustus Frederick, and a daughter, at present resident in Paris. Three questions now came before the committee—whether the marriage at Rome was actually performed; whether it was legal as an ordinary marriage; and whether it was rendered invalid by the Royal Marriage Act, the 12th Geo. III. c. 11. Sir Thomas Wilde argued, that for the purposes of marriage between protestants, Rome is a place where there is no law of marriage; since protestants cannot be married according to the *lex loci* by a catholic priest; and therefore, in the case of English subjects, the common law of England still obtains, recognising a marriage *per verba de presenti*. The marriage of Lord Cloncurry with a protestant lady at Rome was held good on those grounds. As to the Royal Marriage Act, it is, he contended, an act imposing disabilities, and therefore to be construed strictly; and thus it cannot hold good where it cannot be enforced, or in any part of the British dominions not named in it—not even in Ireland, and *a fortiori* not in a foreign country. In the course of his speech, Sir Thomas Wilde read several letters that passed between Lady Augusta Murray and the Prince. They are couched in terms of the usual ardour; the lady showing the utmost devotion to her fervent lover, but manifesting some anxiety, while Mr Gunn's scruples were under process of persuasion, lest he should think her "vile"—should think that she had been the Prince's mistress. On the subject of these letters the *Times* of Saturday has the following paragraph:—

In the first place, then, we say it is a plain tempting of *Punch*, to keep on the statute-book a law [the Royal Marriage act] which results in the exposure of such an unparalleled variety of royal and noble nonsense as is obtruded on the world from the journal and love letters of his Royal Highness Augustus Frederick and his intended. Take the following specimen of a letter of the Prince's. After informing the lady, in a kind of agony of determination, that he has fasted nothing for forty-eight hours, and that "by all that is holy, till when he is married, he will eat nothing, and if he is not to be married, the promise shall die with him," he proceeds in the following strain. We can liken it to nothing but the incoherent ejaculations of a man who is on the point of being violently seasick. As the climax approaches, we seem to trace the very lurches of the vessel which extort the despairing sobs of the sufferer:—"I will be conducted in everything by you, but I must be married or die. I would rather see none of my family than be deprived of you. You alone can make me—you alone shall this evening—I will sooner drop (!) than give you up. Good God, how I feel! And my love to be doubted sincere and warm! The Lord knows the truth of it; and, as I say, if in forty-eight hours I am not married, I am no more! Oh! Augusta, my soul, let us try. Let me come. I am capable of anything. I fear nothing; and Mr Gunn (the clergyman), seeing our resolution, will agree. I am half dead! Good God, what will become of me? I shall go mad, most undoubtedly!" Conceive a rational being—an educated man—nay, "an accomplished prince," deliberately (or precipitately) sitting down, mending his pen, and committing to paper this strange compound paroxysm of love and hunger. And consider that a statute, expressly framed to support "the honour and dignity of the Crown," has issued in publishing to the four quarters of the world such a development of royalty.

Sir Thomas Wilde having concluded his statement the committee adjourned *sine die*.

DUNCOMBE TESTIMONIAL.—We understand that the original Metropolitan Trades' Demonstrations committee, being anxious to testify their gratitude to T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M.P., for his uniform and unswerving support of their rights, and especially for his successful opposition to a bill entitled the Masters and Servants' bill, have resolved upon raising a fund for the purpose of purchasing an estate for that gentleman.

THE NEW GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA.—The East India directors gave a grand entertainment, on Wednesday, to Sir H. Hardinge, the Governor-general of India, previous to his departure from this country. The *Spectator* gives the following description of it:—The Duke of Wellington's position at the East India directors' dinner to Sir Henry Hardinge, on Wednesday, recalls the image of the captive French king in the tent of the Black Prince. The Duke was the hero of the evening; Sir Henry, the nominal hero, laid all the honours of the banquet at the Duke's feet; the chairman was lavish in his eulogiums of the Duke; the great end and aim of the speechification was to soothe the Duke; and yet, amid all his homage, the impertinent idea would recur, that the Duke was sitting at the hospitable board of the Board that had checkmated him. The Duke, in return, was grimly civil. In his speech, returning thanks for the toast of himself and the army, there was, to be sure, not one word about indiscretion; but, rigidly scrutinized, not one word of decided compliment to his entertainers will be found in it. The new Governor-general, while apparently bent alone upon soothing his veteran chief, contrived adroitly to pay his court to the directors. The skilful and tortuous climax with which he rose from a panegyric on the Indian army to dilate upon his own ultra-transcendental pacific disposition, was an unspeakable relief to the assembled chairs. The Board was heard to draw a long sigh of unutterable relief. Each chair muttered to itself, in unpremeditated concert with its fellows—"Public opinion is right; Sir Henry will be a safe governor of India."

A COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL was held on Thursday, for the despatch of business. In accordance with the recommendation of the London Bridge Approaches Committee, a bond for £25,000, to be advanced by the bank of England, and paid to the commissioners for continuing Farringdon street to Clerkenwell green, was sealed. The court resumed on adjourned discussion on a motion by Deputy Corney, "That it be referred to the parliamentary committee to consider the propriety of petitioning parliament for an act to better the moral and physical condition of the vagrant population of this metropolis, and report their opinion forthwith." Mr Corney declared that street beggars had become an intolerable nuisance. He had traced families in pursuit of the begging trade, in the same district, throughout thirty years. The evil cannot be abolished by existing powers; and he thought that a clause might be introduced into the Poor-law bill, now before parliament. Mr King complained that Mr Corney proposed nothing to carry out his own object, and he moved "the previous question." A long discussion followed, which Mr R. Taylor turned upon the iniquities of the corn law, and Sir Peter Laurie upon the iniquities of the poor law; but eventually the amendment was carried by a large majority.

Quarterly average of the weekly liabilities and assets of the Bank of England, from the 24th of February, 1844, to the 18th of May, 1844:—

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Circulation..	£21,393,000	Securities..	£21,786,000
Deposits....	13,345,000	Bullion....	16,010,000
	£34,738,000		£37,796,000

THE PROJECTED ENCLOSURE OF HAMPTSTEAD HEATH.—A bill, for the fourth time, having been introduced into parliament, for the purpose of enabling Sir Thomas M. Wilson, the lord of the manor, to effect the sale of certain land, the result of which would be the destruction and enclosure of Hampstead heath; a numerous meeting of the inhabitants of that district was held on Friday, when the project was condemned in the strongest terms, and a petition to parliament adopted against it.

GREAT CHORAL MEETING AT EXETER HALL.—The "great choral meeting" of the upper singing schools, instructed by Mr Hullah, took place on Thursday, for the only time this season. The body of the hall was completely occupied by the pupils of the system, the basses being ranged on the left (from the platform), the tenors on the right, and the ladies, both altos and sopranos, in the centre. Mr Hullah, stationed on the platform with a semi-circle of visitors in the bank ground, stood by his elegantly carved music stand, and, baton in hand, guided the ocean of vocalists below. Among these every variety of temperament might be detected. Some sang out fearlessly with the full volume of their voice, rejoicing in its sound; others more cautiously repressed their vigour; some trusted to their heads and ears alone, others assisted themselves by assiduously marking their time with their fingers; some fixed their eyes immovably on their books, others glanced wistfully at Mr Hullah, as if afraid of going wrong without the assistance of his baton. Truly, it was an interesting sight—a sight that could not have been witnessed in any other age. Whether singing in parts is soundly and effectively taught by this method, whether four single singers picked out of the several masses, could execute a quartet as well as the masses themselves, we do not undertake to decide. Thus much is certain, that a large portion of the population, that never thought of music at all, further than a jolly song after supper, is now induced to take a serious interest in its cultivation, and to familiarise the ear with the combinations of harmony. An expanse, filled with human countenances, all interested in the success of each particular piece, such as we saw last night, is a sufficient answer to the question whether the singing schools will diffuse a knowledge of music in this country. The will, at all events, is created, and the power is likely to follow, as a matter of course. The music was on the whole very creditably and in some in-

stances excellently sung, by a chorus of 1,500 voices, and a semi-chorus of 500.—*Times*.

ROBBERY AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE.—At Bow street police office, on Thursday, Ellen and Elizabeth Lindsay, sisters, the one a housemaid and the other a linen woman at Buckingham palace, were charged with stealing a quantity of blankets, linen, and other articles, valued at £40, the property of the Queen; and James Lindsay, their brother, a surgeon, with receiving the stolen goods, at his residence, Upper Eaton street. After a long inquiry the accused were remanded for further examination.

EXECUTION OF WILLIAM CROUCH, FOR THE MURDER OF HIS WIFE.—On Monday morning, at eight o'clock, the extreme penalty of the law was carried out in front of her Majesty's gaol of Newgate, upon the wretched man, William Crouch, for the murder of his wife, Elizabeth Frances Crouch, at Marylebone. The people began to assemble in front of the gaol as early as two o'clock; and, long before the hour appointed for the execution, the Old Bailey was completely choked up. During the night, the condemned prisoner slept soundly. At five o'clock, he engaged in devotion with Mr Davis, the ordinary, and afterwards made a full confession of his crime. Before proceeding to the place of execution, the ordinary asked him, for the satisfaction of those present, to repeat his full conviction of the justice of the awful sentence he was about to undergo. The culprit, in a low tone, replied, "I do, Sir." The chaplain then asked, "And you believe that sentence to be one which the laws of God require for the welfare of society?" The wretched man again said, "Yes, Sir." He then addressed the prisoner, and said, the only comfort the sheriffs could experience in the performance of so painful a duty was, the conviction that he died penitently. After the lapse of a few seconds, the officers of justice formed into procession, and the prisoner walked between Messrs Wright and Newman, with a firm and unerring step, through the several winding passages leading to the scaffold, which he ascended without assistance; and, the fatal bolt having been withdrawn, in a few moments he was launched into eternity. He struggled but little; and after the body had been hanging an hour, it was cut down and dissected.

PROVINCIAL.

CHICHESTER ELECTION.—On Monday Lord Arthur Lennox was re-elected to represent this borough without opposition. His lordship said he should abide by the Reform bill—that he was a finality man—and would not vote for an extension of the elective franchise. Mr W. Malden, independent minister, praised him for his conduct in parliament during the last session, on the subject of the educational clauses of Sir James Graham's Factories bill. But he must be allowed to put a few questions to the noble candidate, on some topics of stirring interest. "Whether his lordship was willing to equalise the duties on foreign and colonial sugar?" "Whether he would admit corn into this country free of importation duty?" "Whether he would give his vote that every man, unconvicted of crime, should possess the franchise?" "Whether he would repeal the law of primogeniture, that it may no longer be necessary for the sons and brothers of dukes to be made pensioners on the public purse?" "Whether he would repeal the union between the church and the state, that we may have free trade in religion, as well as in corn and in sugar?" and lastly, "whether he would do all in his power to discountenance war, the great scourge of mankind?" Mr M. contended, at some length, that all his questions should be answered in the affirmative. His lordship said "No" to all of them but the last, admitting war to be a great evil, and ought not to be prosecuted when it can be avoided. The noble lord would support her Majesty's ministers, and especially on the sugar duties, because he would not encourage slavery. Mr Malden, in thanking the noble lord for the trouble he had taken in answering his questions, thought the noble candidate mistaken in supposing free trade in sugar would perpetuate slavery, and reminded him of the decision to which the annual meeting of the Anti-slavery Society had come on the subject.

SOUTH LANCASHIRE ELECTION.

During the past week, up to Friday, the friends of the two candidates were most active in pursuing their canvassing throughout the several townships of South Lancashire. Neither of them, however, seem to have given very satisfactory answers to the questions put to them. Mr Brown appears to be almost as much a conservative in politics as his opponent, while the fact of Mr Entwistle being a Puseyite, has created quite a storm of opposition, and engendered much bitter controversy. A correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle* of Thursday gives the following graphic account of the reception of the two candidates on Tuesday's Change, in Manchester. The account is headed "Demonstration of mercantile feeling in favour of free trade:—"

Mr Entwistle, the conservative candidate, a retired and comparatively unknown manufacturer, by the side of Mr Brown, one of the greatest merchants of the day—"the Liverpool Rothschild," as he is termed—seemed to be comparatively nobody. He walked about 'Change, leaning upon the arm of Mr Richard Birley, the chairman of his committee, apparently overlooked or neglected even by those who professed to be his own friends; they, like all the rest, were pressing into the large group which occupied the centre of the immense building, and in the midst of which was at this moment the man of all-absorbing interest, Mr Brown, the free trade candidate. Mr Brown's friends decided how to act immediately. Along the eastern side of the Exchange is an extensive and comparatively retired paved court, called Ducie place; and by throwing open one of the first-floor windows of the building on the opposite side of it (the *Manchester Times* office), there was a hustings provided for the free trade candidate at once. The merchants and manufacturers at this moment assembled within and without the Exchange were numerous and excited; and, obeying almost to a man the invitation to hear Mr Brown's sentiments, there was, in the course of about ten minutes, an open-air

meeting, extending the whole width of Ducie place, and in length from the Arcade buildings to Market street, and comprising, at the very least, from 4,000 to 5,000 *bona fide* merchants and manufacturers. The space could not have been more densely packed; whilst the merchants who could not get out stood inside the Exchange, listening in eager anxiety to the statements Mr Brown and his friends made. The meeting, too, was as remarkable for the wealth represented as for its numbers. To give a list of names would only be to copy those of the most eminent among the subscribers to the Exchange.

Here Mr Brown made a strong free trade speech; and a resolution in his favour was passed, with one dissentient.

With respect to the conduct of the landed interest of the county the *Liverpool Mercury* says:—"It will be seen that whilst many of the great landowners, as the Earl of Sefton, the Earl of Derby, C. Scarsbrick, Esq., C. Blundell, Esq., of Crosby, J. W. Blundell, Esq., of Ince, and Sir H. Houghton, for instance, have signified their wishes that their tenants should vote according to their consciences, others of minor note have ordered theirs to vote for the monopolist. For the credit of South Lancashire, we hope that its stout yeomanry will spurn the petty tyranny, and vote for no man but him of whom they conscientiously approve."

It appears from the result of the canvass that great numbers of voters were likely to be absent on the days of polling, Monday and Tuesday, in consequence of having made previous arrangements for pleasure trips, caused no doubt by the very tempting and almost irresistible low railway and packet fares to London, Edinburgh, Dublin, &c., for Whitsun-week. Both parties are sorely lamenting that the days of election should have been fixed on days so inopportune as those of Whit-Monday and Tuesday—indeed, there are many who do not hesitate to say, that there was more of design in this part of the arrangements than met the eye, as was supposed to have been the case at the late London election, when the polling day was fixed for Saturday, the Jewish Sabbath.

The present election will in many respects unquestionably be of use as a kind of pattern-card to all other county constituencies, some of which may be briefly stated: and first, there has been no money squandered away in the purchase of ribands, rosettes, or other unmeaning symptoms and indications of party. Hitherto, also, the walls have been singularly wanting in the accustomed decorations of placards, by which large sums will be saved to the two exchequers; both parties, to their credit, are seemingly disposed to view the present contest in too serious a light to waste either their money or their time in such trifles. The only outward and visible signs of an election going on were two flags, one at each of the principal committee rooms.

One singular fact connected with the election is the conduct of the *Times* newspaper. In Thursday's number we find the following:—

Will any kind person help us to choose between Mr Brown and Mr Entwistle? The fault is not theirs. We dare say there is the widest difference between them, and each would think it the greatest possible indignity to be mistaken for the other. It is the fault of circumstances. There is a real difficulty in getting up a fight—in making out a good *casus belli*, and setting the two candidates fairly by the ears.

The *Times* then compares the opinions of the two candidates on the subject of the Corn laws, but more especially on the New Poor Law and Ten Hours bills, pronouncing them to be unsatisfactory. It does not even derive satisfaction from Mr Entwistle's theoretical opinions, exclaiming—

What avails a wealthy establishment—what avail schemes of education, with a population whose time and strength are wholly given to drudgery, and whose earthly hopes are to terminate in the continual prospect of a union workhouse?

Lastly, we have heard it whispered that Mr Entwistle is the nicer man of the two. This, of course, would settle the question, if niceness involved all the virtues which adorn humanity. But we are sorry to confess a distrust of nice men. There are many nice men in the House of Commons, and nice work have they made of it.

Mesmerism has been brought in to foretell the result. "We are informed," says the *Manchester Times*, "that a patient, while under the mesmeric influence the other day, was asked what would be the result of the South Lancashire election? His reply was that Mr Brown would be returned. When asked by what majority? he replied, By about twenty."

The nomination of candidates took place at Newton-in-the-Willows, on Friday; the little town being crowded by an unusual concourse. Mr William Brown was proposed as a free-trader, by Mr Robert Gardner, a conservative member of the Anti-corn-law League, and seconded by Mr J. C. Ewart, of Liverpool. Mr Entwistle was proposed by Colonel Tempest, who advocated the corn laws, and seconded by Sir T. Brancker, "in a good old tory speech." In addressing the electors, Mr Brown rested his claim on his free-trade principles. Mr Entwistle descanted on the merits of the present government, but joined issue with Mr Brown on the corn laws. Mr Cobden then followed in a short speech, which he was only allowed to make by proposing as a candidate Sir T. Potter. This nomination was not seconded. The Sheriff declared the show of hands to be in Mr Entwistle's favour, a decision which provoked loud discontent among Mr Brown's friends. A poll was demanded, and fixed to commence on Monday.

The polling commenced on Monday morning, and, at the close of the day, the following were the relative returns, according to the *Times*, as put forth by Mr Entwistle's committee:—

Polling places.	Entwistle.	Brown.
Newton, at four o'clock	778	419
Ashton, at four o'clock	363	325
Oldham, at four o'clock	316	325
Rochdale, at half-past two o'clock	367	546
Liverpool, at four o'clock	863	1083
Bolton, at four o'clock	613	403
Bury, at four o'clock	419	439
Manchester, at four o'clock	1357	1464
Ormskirk, at two o'clock	564	251
Wigan, at three o'clock	371	192
	5811	5446

Majority for Mr Entwistle, 365.
The *Chronicle* makes the majority only 338.

BUCKINGHAM.—Sir Thomas Francis Fremantle, Bart., will, after the recess, resume his seat in the House of Commons as one of the members for the borough of Buckingham, having, since his acceptance of the office of Secretary at War, and consequent resignation, been re-elected without opposition.

ANDOVER.—The *Hants Independent* says that the representation of this borough is likely soon to become vacant by the retirement of Lord W. Paget.

PEOPLE'S COLLEGE, NOTTINGHAM.—On Tuesday evening last, a lecture of a most interesting character was delivered in the Exchange room, to a highly respectable and crowded audience, by the Rev. R. S. Bayley, independent minister, of Sheffield, on the subject of popular education, and explanatory of the system pursued by him in the People's College at Sheffield. We announced some time since, that above a thousand pounds had been offered towards the establishment of a People's College in Nottingham, and now understand that there is a great probability of such an institution being brought into full operation.—*Nottingham Review*.

THE TEN HOURS BILL.—We learn from the *Times* of Saturday, that the discontent which exists amongst the operatives of this district ever since the decision of the House of Commons on the Factories' bill, is extensive in the extreme. Many of the old ten hours' advocates, who for upwards of twenty years have been engaged in the cause, now begin to despair of ever procuring redress from parliament, and are advising the operatives to take their affairs into their own hands, and curtail the hours of labour without the aid of parliament. Though there may appear considerable difficulty in the undertaking, there does exist a very resolute determination to make the attempt. In the early part of this week a meeting of delegates from eighteen principal towns in Lancashire was held in Manchester, at which meeting the question was fully gone into. It appeared from the report of several of the delegates, that societies had been formed in several towns for that purpose, and that there existed a universal disposition amongst the operatives to accomplish their object by combinations. Amongst other resolutions, the following was unanimously adopted:—

"4. That the delegates now present shall, on their return to their respective districts, endeavour to ascertain how far the operatives in their various districts are prepared to adopt the regulation of commencing work at six o'clock in the morning, and of leaving off at six o'clock at night, as passed by three distinct votes of the House of Commons; and that, at their next meeting, they lay before the body their report, particularly the probable time when they would be ready to carry it into effect, and how far all other factory workers can be got to act with them; and that the report from each district be submitted to the meeting this day month."

REDUCTION OF LABOUR IN FACTORIES.—A correspondent writes as follows:—"Will you permit me to correct a statement made by the *Preston Chronicle*, which you have inserted in your paper of the 1st instant, respecting the hours of labour being reduced to eleven per day, by one of the principal firms in Preston, and the wages also. I beg to state that that firm has reduced the hours as above, but not the wages. They commenced as follows:—From six o'clock in the morning till half-past six in the evening, allowing half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner. No tea was allowed; but the first week gave the masters such great satisfaction, that they have now commenced letting them have tea."

THE COLLIERIES OF THE TYNE.—Arrangements, as is now pretty well known, have been set afloat for some time past by the coalowners of this district to get their pits again at work. In addition to those already enumerated we have to mention Willington, Heaton, Seaforth, and Coxlodge, as having partially resumed operations. We have been informed that Felling Colliery will commence full work next week, with an entirely new set of men, unless the turnouts should in the meantime accept the conditions offered by their late employers. If the pitmen should still hold out, they will in many instances be compelled to quit their dwellings, in order to make room for those who are willing to accept employment.—*Newcastle Advertiser*. In Yorkshire many of the colliers have returned to work, at an advance "one shilling a score, and a penny a yard." The great bulk of the miners still, however, remain out, and have paraded several towns of the district during the week in great numbers.

EPSOM RACES.—At these races, which took place on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, the gambling booths were, for the first time, suppressed. The first thing seen on Wednesday, the great "Derby-day," was a strong body of police, which took possession of the ground, the gaming-booth people having been reported to make some threat of resistance. The inhabitants of the town had memorialised Sir James Graham, setting forth that large sums had been paid by the booth-owners for the use of the ground; begging that the present races might be allowed to pass over without interference, and promising co-operation in suppressing gambling at future races. But Sir James Graham would not listen to dissuaves; the police were instructed to enforce the prohibition—and all passed off quietly, notwithstanding the sullen looks of boothkeepers and thimble-riggers. The races were as crowded as usual, and one or two serious accidents occurred on the return home on Wednesday.

JUSTICES' JUSTICE.—At the sessions at Preston, a few days since, two men were charged with stealing six drinking glasses. The grand jury looking upon the matter as "a mere larking affair," ignored the bills. The chairman was very indignant, and returned the verdict for re-consideration, with precisely the

same result. The chairman then severely censured the conduct of the jury. The foreman, in reply, said the jury believed they had not been used as gentlemen by the court when their judgment was called in question by the chairman, who had been pleased to say that they were not men of common sense. After another reprimand from the court, the jury was dismissed!

A DUEL.—One of those stupid modes of adjusting a dispute, called "affairs of honour," came off in the vicinity of Bristol, on Saturday morning, between Mr H— and Mr W—. The cause of quarrel has been variously stated. A correspondent of the *Bristol Gazette* asserts that the balls used were made of bread, coated with black lead, and adds that one of the belligerents made his will, bequeathing £300 to his adversary.—*Keene's Bath Journal*.

INCENDIARISM IN SUFFOLK.—A correspondent of the *Times* asserts that a "reign of terror" continues in Suffolk; scarcely a week having passed since the winter without an incendiary fire, and threatening letters being rife. It is difficult to assign any intelligible or obvious motives for these outrages, if considered with special reference to the individuals who have been the greatest sufferers. Amongst other fires which took place last week, was one at the village of Cornard, where a large mass of agricultural buildings and several cottages were consumed. The other houses in the village narrowly escaped. This is the most calamitous fire that has occurred in the county for many years. The neighbourhood is in the greatest state of excitement, and unfortunately no clue has at present been obtained to the incendiary villain. The damage is roughly estimated at nearly £5,000.

MURDERS AT NOTTINGHAM.—A most revolting murder was discovered at Nottingham, on Thursday, one Saville, a framework-knitter, having killed his wife and three children, with a razor, in a spinney between Carlton and Colwich, that he might be free to marry a young woman whom he had courted, but who repulsed him as being already married.

SCOTLAND.

KILMARNOCK ELECTION.

(From the *Glasgow Saturday Post*.)

After a week's canvassing, the conservatives have at last found a candidate to come forward in their interest for the Kilmarnock burghs. The aspirant for the honour of labouring to continue the electors and inhabitants of that district in as nearly as possible their present condition, and for continuing every abuse that exists, whether in the state or in the church, is a Mr Prinsep, from England, whom no one hereabouts has ever before heard of; but who himself informs us, that he is "just one year" returned from India, where, having held a seat in the supreme executive and legislative councils, he conceives himself well qualified to understand the interest of the people belonging to the Kilmarnock burghs, and to represent them in the British parliament.

PROGRESS OF MR HENRY VINCENT.

RENFREW.—According to previous arrangement, Mr Vincent, the radical candidate for the Kilmarnock burghs, addressed the electors of this town, on Monday forenoon, at eleven o'clock. The meeting was convened in the Town hall, which was filled by a most respectable audience. Mr John Paterson, being unanimously called to the chair, stated the object of the meeting, after which Mr Vincent, who was accompanied by his friend, John Dunlop, Esq., of Brockloch, came forward and was loudly applauded. His address, which was characterised by that clear and forcible style of eloquence for which he is so remarkable, consisted, as at Kilmarnock and Rutherglen, of an exposition of his principles as a radical reformer. Mr Vincent, during his address, took occasion to advert to the cry attempted to be got up by the journals which were in the interest of the whig clique, who introduced Mr Bouverie to the electors, that his coming forward was calculated to divide reformers, and cause disunion in the radical ranks.

Such a cry, he said, certainly came very inappropriately from those who brought forward Mr Bouverie, after they were made aware that he (Mr V.) was in the field, and with the knowledge at the same time that, as a reformer, he advocated all the views held by Mr Bouverie. If Mr B. had been in the field previous to himself, he certainly should not have thought of coming forward, and there might have been some apology for such a cry; but was he to be told now—after having presented himself to the constituency—after having received the most encouraging proffers of support—after having canvassed a great part of the burghs—"You must retire?" For what, he would like to know? Why, because a small junta of so-called reformers, who had hitherto taken upon them to dictate to the electors of these burghs, set up a clamour of, "It will divide the reform interest." He could assure them, however, that this humbug would not serve now-a-days. He would not retire [cheers]—he would not give up the contest. He had not entered it without a due consideration of the consequences; and he was happy to know, from the electors of the burghs he had already addressed, that Mr Bouverie's appearance and explanation of his views had not in the least damped his (Mr Vincent's) prospects of success [loud cheers].

John Dunlop, Esq., of Brockloch, next addressed the electors in support of Mr Vincent, warmly urging his claims to their support, and stating the deep hold he had already taken upon the affections of the radical reformers of Kilmarnock. A resolution was then moved, seconded, and unanimously passed, approving of Mr Vincent's principles, and resolving to support him on going to the poll. A committee of electors was then appointed to forward Mr V.'s return; after which, Mr Vincent and Mr Dunlop retired amidst the cheers of the meeting, and a similar demonstration from the crowds of people assembled on the street in front of the hall.

PORT-GLASGOW.—On the same day, at three o'clock, Mr Vincent addressed a crowded meeting of the electors and other inhabitants of Port-Glasgow, in the largest hall in the town, where he was equally warmly received. On this occasion Councillor Burrell was called to the chair. Mr Vincent, as at Renfrew, gave a rapid and vivid sketch of his political principles, and concluded with a powerful appeal on their behalf. He then referred to the views of his opponent, Mr Bouverie, whom he accused of want of explicitness; and, after touching up the whig clique for their manner of conducting the contest, resumed his seat amid loud cheering. At the close of Mr V.'s address, Mr Archibald M'Callum, an elector, put several questions to Mr V., which he declared were answered to his satisfaction. Mr Alexander Johnston then moved, that Mr Vincent, in the opinion of this meeting, is a fit and proper person to represent the Kilmarnock burghs. Alex. Watson, Esq., of Auchinleet, seconded the motion, and it passed without opposition. John Dunlop, Esq., of Brockloch, then briefly addressed the electors in support of Mr V., after which thanks were voted to the chairman, and the meeting broke up, giving three cheers for Mr V.'s return.

DUMBARTON.—Mr Vincent addressed the electors of Dumbarton on the evening of Monday, at eight o'clock, in the Odd Fellows' hall. Alex. M'Neil, Esq., chairman. The hall was crowded, and Mr V.'s address here seemed to give even greater satisfaction than at Renfrew or Port-Glasgow. After the close of the address, several questions were put to the candidate by Mr Wilson, which were answered to the entire satisfaction of the meeting. Mr Wilson then moved the thanks of the meeting to Mr Vincent for his visit, and eloquent declaration of principles. Mr M'Kellar seconded the motion, which was agreed to. Mr William M'Aslin, burgh treasurer, next moved, that this meeting declare that Mr Vincent is a fit and proper candidate to represent the burgh in parliament. Mr Kerr seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Arrangements were entered into here, as in the case of the other burghs, for the holding of another meeting previous to the day of nomination; also, for the appointment of a committee to promote the return of Mr Vincent.

THE NOMINATION.

According to appointment, the nomination of candidates for the Kilmarnock district of burghs, took place to-day (Saturday), at twelve o'clock, in front of the Town hall of Kilmarnock. The weather being fine, there was an extraordinary turn-out of people, the greater part of the street opposite the hall being filled with a dense mass of human beings. On the balcony we observed, in addition to the candidates and their proposers and seconders, Sir James Campbell, of Glasgow; Sir John Cunningham, of Fairlie; Edward Ellice, Esq., M.P.; John Dunlop, Esq., of Brockloch; Mr Crawford, yr, of Auchnages; Col M'Allister, of Kennox; Provost Millar, of Ayr; Provost Reid, of Renfrew; P. Cowan, Esq., Dr Hood, George Paxton, &c.

After the reading of the writ by Sheriff Bell, also, the acts against bribery and corruption,

Mr HUGH CRAIG came forward, amidst loud cheering, to propose Mr Henry Vincent as a fit and proper person to represent the Kilmarnock district of burghs in parliament:—

He said he believed there was not a burgh in the empire, the representation of which was so much coveted as Kilmarnock. He supposed this arose from their consistency of conduct, and adherence to principle as electors [laughter and cheers]. They had now before them three candidates. They had one gentleman from far beyond the land of Uz [laughter]. A candidate from the far east to solicit their suffrages as electors. Then they had the son of a noble lord, or rather a right hon. earl, who had condescended so far as to become a candidate for their suffrages. Then they had his humble and unpretending friend, Henry Vincent, whom he had the honour of introducing to them as an old and tried friend of his own. He was possessed of brilliant talents, extensive acquirements, a refined and polished mind, an irreproachable character; and he was possessed, at the same time, of the most commanding eloquence [cheers]. Was this the man they wished to represent them? ["Yes, yes," and loud cheering.]

Mr Craig proceeded, at some length, to eulogise Mr Vincent as the advocate of the rights of the whole people to the franchise; as the advocate of free trade, of free religion, and of universal education; and concluded, amid loud cheering, by proposing him as a candidate.

Mr GEORGE OSBORNE seconded the nomination.

Provost BROWN, of Kilmarnock, next came forward to propose the Hon. Mr Bouverie, and was greeted with cheers and hisses.

Baillie YOUNG, amidst a storm of groans and hisses, seconded the motion of Provost Brown. He cautioned Mr Vincent to remember that, by standing as a candidate, he would only divide the liberal interest, and retired amidst hissing, groaning, and similar demonstrations of feeling.

Baillie WALLACE begged leave to propose Mr Prinsep as a fit and proper person to represent the burghs of Kilmarnock in parliament. From that gentleman's long experience, being at the head of the council board in India, he was very much calculated, in his opinion, to advance and promote trade in this great community [hisses]; for they were essentially a trading community, and it was his opinion that many of them laid too much stress on politics without looking to the real advantage of having a person to represent them who could assist the commerce and manufactures of this town [hisses].

Mr THOMSON seconded the motion.

Mr VINCENT now rose to address the meeting, and was received with loud and prolonged cheering. After silence had, in some measure, been obtained, he said:—

Mr Returning Officer and electors of Kilmarnock—I beg to tender to the whole of this vast assembly my kind acknowledgments for its cordial and spirited greeting, and I beg respectfully to re-echo the sentiments which have been uttered by one of the speakers, to the effect that he trusted that the discussions of this day would be free from all personal allusion, and that we should devote ourselves to a great discussion with regard to the true interests of our country, with a view to perceiving what principles can bless and improve her, and what are the interests of the great body of the people. And, before I proceed, I may remark that I shall feel it my duty before endeavouring to lay before you the principles which I have the honour to hold, to notice, in the first place, the remark which fell from the gentlemen who seconded the nomination of Mr Bouverie. I mean the gentleman who took upon himself, in a spirit of kindness, to say that he would recommend me not to divide the liberal interest [laughter]. Now, I beg to return the same advice to the gentleman who so kindly put it to me; and I have to ask the liberal and enlightened electors of this town, after I have submitted my claims and professions to fair and open meetings of the electors and non-electors, not only in Kilmarnock, but in all the other burghs, and when in each of those meetings not one single hand has been held up against me proceeding in this important contest [cheers]. I would ask those right honourable gentlemen, seeing that I was the first in the field, and holding every principle which Mr Bouverie professes, how they can charge me with dividing, when I have thrown myself upon the minds and hearts of the liberal interest of the great body of the liberal electors [loud cheers]? The worthy gentlemen who tender me this advice know well that the opinions of the great majority of the liberal electors of Kilmarnock are in my favour, and I would respectfully state to you that throughout England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales, since the passing of the Reform bill, wherever a liberal candidate was first introduced into the field, although he might not hold views along with all the liberal electors of the place, they invariably threw aside their own party views and predilections, and rendered their support to the candidate first in the field, and in no case that I am aware of did the liberal electors bring forward a candidate to oppose a liberal [great cheering]. Now, I put it to these gentlemen if they can bring any charge against my character, and if I am a moral and religious man—if I am a radical reformer and free trader in the fullest and most extensive sense of the term—if I am willing to extend my sympathies to all classes of my fellow-countrymen, and to contend for their rights and interests, how can I be charged with dividing the liberal interest [cheers]? Gentlemen, I have received communications from some of the most enlightened reformers in this country since I have had the honour of presenting myself to your notice, and what do these communications contain? They ask, how is it that since you were introduced into the burghs of Kilmarnock, the newspapers, but not those in your interest, have described you as a sweet, amiable young man, whose duty it would be to go out of the way for other people's benefit?—[loud laughter]—how is it that, since you have received the support of so large a portion of the districts, the friends of Mr Bouverie have brought him forward? Gentlemen, I appeal to the honourable gentleman on the other side of this platform (Mr Bouverie)—and since I see beneath me another honourable candidate who was only introduced to you to-day [laughter]—I desire to put it to you, in the most affectionate and patriotic spirit, whether you will proceed with that gentleman to the poll, unless you can prove that I am unworthy of public confidence [loud cries of "Hear, hear"]. Unless they can establish this to the satisfaction of a majority of the electors, I put it to them that it is they who are dividing the liberal interest and not Henry Vincent [loud cheering]. Now, I request the editors of the Glasgow newspapers to notice this fact, although they have thought proper to keep my name out of view; let the reporters notice the fact that I am the only candidate who has boldly and honestly appealed to the people, and who has been unitedly supported by them [loud cheering]. I am informed, on the credit and authority of gentlemen in this town, who would by no means deceive me, that, at the first meeting where Mr Bouverie faced the constituency, his sentiments did not give that satisfaction which the liberal electors had a right to expect—[hear, and "true"]—from a gentleman professing liberal views in politics. I am sorry to make this remark, but it is due to myself—for those gentlemen attempt to foist upon me the charge of dividing the liberal interest; [but I can assure them, throughout England, Ireland, or Scotland, wherever the liberal interest is struggling, I can assure them that if Mr Bouverie goes to the poll against me, it will increase the opinion that there is never to be sacrifice or inconvenience, but that the great bulk of the people are always to bend to the preconceived notions of a few. Mr Vincent here proceeded to refer to Mr Bouverie as the descendant of the illustrious Lord Folkestone, who had stood by the cause of reform in other and more stirring times, and appealed to him whether it was wise or judicious or proper to continue in the field against their tory acquaintance Prinsep, whom, without the interference of Mr Bouverie, he (Mr Vincent) believed he could beat most heartily and soundly too. He next gave an eloquent and effective declaration of his principles as a radical reformer, as a suffrage extensionist, as a friend to free trade, as the enemy of all monopolies whether in church or state, and then adverted to the opinions of his tory opponent, whose sentiments as a conservative, as a man educated in the school of eastern despotism, as a supporter of church and state monopolies, he severely criticised, and turned into ridicule. He concluded a long and stirring speech amid great cheering, which was again and again renewed at intervals.

Mr Bouverie next came forward to address the meeting, and was received with mingled cheers and hisses. He said—Gentlemen, there is one seat to dispose of, and three of us want to sit in it [laughter]. I will not, however, reply to the remarks of the gentleman who has just spoken. I respect his character, I honour his abilities, and in most of his political opinions I confess I most cordially concur, but in some of them it is my opinion that he is inclined to drive a great deal farther and much faster than is consistent with your safety [hissing, cheering, and confusion]. Let every one have a fair hearing [cheers]. Upon the opinions of my other honourable opponent, although Mr Vincent has entered at large, I should wish to make two or three remarks. Mr Bouverie then dwelt at some length on

Mr Prinsep's opinions, and concluded—I stand here as a reformer, not as one of a class to carry out laws for their benefit. It is true that I belong to a particular class; but my aim will be to show that I can throw aside all reference to party purposes, and, if returned to parliament by your suffrages, I will work body and soul for the common interest of this country [cheers and hisses].

Mr PRINSEP now came forward amidst a storm of hissing and disapprobation. When he could obtain a hearing, he commenced by referring to the boldness of the attempt on his part to address an assembly like that before him. He had never addressed an assembly of that kind before, and having spent so long a time in India, where an assembly like that, possessing so much freedom, which India might not have for ages, he hoped they would feel for his position [groans, hisses, and disapprobation]. He considered it rather an advantage, however, that the gentlemen who had preceded him had saved him the trouble of telling them what he was—for they had read his address; for which service he thanked them, as it would save him the trouble [renewed hisses]. Mr Prinsep continued to address the meeting amidst a storm of hissing and groaning, and when he sat down was greeted with the cry, "We neither want you nor your principles."

Sheriff BELL then took a show of hands for the candidates; when almost the entire assembly voted for Mr Vincent, amid great cheering. For Mr Bouverie about seven hands were held up; and for Mr Prinsep, four hands, one gentleman holding up his two hands. The sheriff then declared Mr Vincent the successful candidate by the show of hands; the other candidates, however, having demanded a poll [this, it will be seen by our correspondent's report, is incorrect], the sheriff fixed Tuesday first, at eight o'clock, for ascertaining the state of the votes. On the motion of Mr Vincent, thanks were voted to the sheriff, and the meeting broke up, giving three cheers for Vincent.

(From our own Correspondent.)

KILMARNOCK, SATURDAY.—The nomination is just over; you must glean all possible news from the *Glasgow Evening Post*. No language can sufficiently pay homage to the peaceable, yet zealously enthusiastic conduct of the assembled thousands this day. Robertson has retired; and though Mr Bouverie and a Tory were nominated against Mr Vincent, still the friends of liberty have reason to hope that Mr Bouverie may withdraw. Mr Vincent (being the first candidate in the field) was nominated in an eloquent speech by Baillie Craig, and seconded by Mr Osborne. Mr Bouverie was nominated and seconded by two of our leading whig electors; and Mr Prinsep, the tory, by two of the leading tories. Mr Vincent's reception was magnificent. Every hat in the vast assembly was uplifted, and peals of the heartiest cheers were given again and again. Mr Vincent reviewed the circumstances that had occurred in the boroughs; and showed that having been first in the field, and having never had one hand held up against him at meetings of either electors or non-electors, in any of the boroughs, no man could charge him with dividing the liberal electors. You must get his speech from the *Post*. He most earnestly appealed to Mr Bouverie to give way before the unmistakable expression of public opinion that surrounded him. He urged him to this course for the sake of the liberal interest throughout all Scotland and England; that division and discord might not be created in all directions. Mr Vincent then analysed the address of the tory candidate; and concluded his address amid great cheering. Mr Bouverie then addressed the meeting, and, after complimenting Mr Vincent in the highest manner (amidst cries of "Why don't you retire, then?"—"Why divide against him?") briefly commented on the tory address. Mr Prinsep then addressed the meeting in praise of our matchless constitution. The show of hands was then taken, when for Mr Vincent the whole mass were uplifted, amidst repeated cheers; for the Hon. Mr Bouverie, there appeared five or six, and the same for the tory. The Sheriff declared the election to have fallen on Henry Vincent. He then said a poll would take place; BUT NO POLL WAS DEMANDED! at least so say those who were near the Sheriff. Whatever may be the result of the poll, if evidence can be given that no poll was demanded, Mr Vincent must be the sitting member for Kilmarnock. During the past week, Mr Vincent has attended three meetings a day in the respective boroughs, although they lie so wide apart, being situated in four different counties; and this evening proceeds to Rutherglen.

THE NEW SUGAR DUTIES.—The *Economist*, in estimating the effects of the proposed alteration of the sugar duties, calculates that 12,000 tons is the utmost quantity that will be received from Java, and that in consequence of an existing treaty with the United States, by which its produce is admitted on the terms of the most favoured nation, there will be a supply available for this market of at least 50,000 tons of slave-labour sugar produced in Louisiana, which will be replaced, in American consumption, by a like quantity of slave-labour sugar from Havannah and Brazil.

The *Dumfries Standard* states that a ploughman, whilst at work in a field at Croalchapel, the other day, turned up a large number of silver coins of the age of Edward I. ten thousand, it is said, of which were carried off by himself and the neighbours in aprons.

At the village of Waddington, near Clithero, there are twenty-five almshouses occupied by as many widows, whose united ages amount to 1838 years.

EVERYBODY'S COLUMN.

The Irish rebellion of 1798 occasioned a loss of at least 70,000 lives, and an expense of £20,000,000.

The total number of Jews throughout the world is estimated at 3,163,700, and it is said that this number has never materially varied from the time of David downwards.

The inhabitants of the Tower of London, including a battalion of the Scots Fusilier Guards and Artillery, amount to nearly 8,000, equal to the population of many small towns.

Boys that have been properly reared, are men in point of usefulness at sixteen; while those that have been brought up in idle habits, are nuisances at twenty-one.

ECLIPSES.—A total eclipse of the moon will take place on the last day of the present month, Friday, the 31st inst. It will commence at fourteen minutes after eight in the evening, and end at twenty-six minutes after one. This eclipse will be visible.

Miss Edgeworth, whom one almost regards as a writer of the Johnson and Goldsmith period, has lately arrived in London to superintend a new edition of her father's autobiography, with her own additions.

NEW BRIDGE OVER THE MENAI STRAITS.—We understand that the landed proprietors in the vicinity of the Menai bridge oppose the passage of the railway, and that it is, therefore, probable the passage across the Straits will have to be made at the Britannia Rock, and will involve at least two arches of 350 feet span. This will be the most gigantic railway work ever undertaken.—*Dublin Paper*.

Father Mathew states, in a published letter, that he has been compelled to postpone his intended visits to Scotland and America.

The expenses of the Irish Ecclesiastical Commissioners for 1843, during which year they distributed £120,000, only amounted to £8,985.

An old beggar, residing in Yorkshire, has just succeeded to a fortune of £95,000, by the death of a nephew in India, without a will.

At the Middlesex sessions, a lad prosecuted for stealing cigars, escaped conviction because the things stolen happened to be cheroots.

A correspondent of the *Family Herald* describes the following as a remedy for locked-jaw:—"Fill the hand on the side principally affected with pulverised stone brimstone, and bind it up for the night."

A writer in the *Railway Record* suggests that her Majesty's mails should be despatched at the rate of fifty miles an hour, through a tube, on the principle of the atmospheric railway!

It is said that the Spanish government intend to transport upwards of 3,000 blacks from Havanna to Africa, and shoot 200! And that upwards of 140,000 free persons of colour are resident in Cuba, who are in favour of the slave population and freedom.

The *Railway Record* hints at the probability of a new London and Birmingham Railway being formed, under the auspices of the Great Western and Grand Junction Companies jointly.

It appears by a return made to the House of Commons, that in 1838 the Lords of the Treasury limited Mr Barry's remuneration, as architect of the Houses of Parliament, to £25,000, to be paid at intervals, in proportion to the advance of the works.

There is a story of the officiating minister at Manchester Collegiate Church having to marry thirty couples all together one Whit Monday. Towards the end of the service a female voice cried out imploringly from the midst of the crowd, "Sir, you've married me to the wrong man." The functionary called out, "Sort yourselves, sort yourselves," and went on.

Mr C. Kemble is giving "Shaksperian Readings" at Willis's Rooms, in London, which are attended by fashionable and crowded audiences.

The committee of the Liverpool Association of assistant tradesmen, last week presented an address of thanks to the Hon. Baptist Noel, for his exertions in promoting the abridgment of the hours of labour. This committee meets to forward its object at six o'clock in the morning.

A QUESTION WITHOUT AN ANSWER.—A knot of rational worthies was convened round the fire in the bar-room of an American village tavern. The blacksmith, and the barber, and the constable, and the schoolmaster, all were there. After they had guzzled and smoked to their hearts' content, and when all the current topics of the day had been exhausted, the schoolmaster proposed a new kind of game, to relieve the monotony of the evening. Each one was to propose a puzzle to his neighbours; and whoever should ask a question that he himself could not solve was to pay the reckoning for the whole. The idea pleased; and the schoolmaster, by virtue of his station, called on Dick Dolt, whom most folks thought a fool, and a few knew for a knave, to put the first question. "Neighbours," said Dick, drawing, and looking ineffably stupid, "you've seen where squirrels dig their holes. Can any of you tell me the reason why they never throw out any dirt?" This was a poser; and, after long cogitation, even the "master" was obliged to give it up. It now devolved upon Dick to explain. "The reason is," said Dick, "that they first begin at the bottom of the hole." "Stop, stop!" cried the pedagogue, startled out of all his prudence and propriety by so monstrous an assertion, "pr'y how does the squirrel get there?" "Ah! master," replied Dick the Delighted, grinning, "that's the question of your own wise asking. You're in for the liquor."

St JAMES'S PARK.—We learn that St James's park, which hitherto has been closed until 8 o'clock in the morning, will in future be opened at 6 o'clock, for the accommodation of those who may be able to avail themselves of the advantages of the park after that hour.—*Standard*.

LIBRARIES FOR THE PEOPLE.—"KNIGHT'S WEEKLY VOLUME."—Mr Charles Knight, the eminent London publisher, has issued a circular within the last few weeks, to which we are anxious to draw the attention of the public. Mr Knight truly observes, that although "a good deal has been done during the last ten or fifteen years, to meet the growing demand for information, much yet remains to be done; the great body of the working population have not yet been reached." To remedy this evil, he suggests, first, the combination of influential individuals, anxious to promote the education and happiness of the people, for the establishment of "Libraries of Association" in rural and other districts. Secondly, the publication of "proper books for such libraries."

With reference to the subjects of books for such libraries (says Mr Knight), I have no hesitation in stating my belief that there should be no attempt at exclusiveness; that books should not be made for the poor; that we should not take up the most false and dangerous opinion that the understandings of the poor should be written down to. Nor should mere didactic instruction only be attempted. A taste for reading has to be first induced, and the recreation of cheerful and amusing reading should be offered in connexion with what is solid and serious.

This is well said, and in the right spirit. We have had too much of that impertinence which consists in addressing the "lower classes" in terms of condescension; and the "Useful Knowledge Society" has not always avoided this fatal error. Books have been published for the "meanest capacities," insulting to the readers for whom they were intended, and which a working man might feel justified in flinging at the writer's head. The blunder, however, is undergoing correction.

A new class of books, especially fitted for libraries such as I have been honoured by the request to cooperate in forming (Mr Knight goes on to say), cannot, I think, be undertaken without some adequate demonstration on the part of a large number of influential friends of popular instruction, that they will receive full encouragement if satisfactorily executed. They must involve considerable literary expense in some cases, and they must be cheap beyond precedent. This remarkable cheapness will probably render such an enterprise safer than if a price not strikingly cheap were determined on. I propose to publish a volume of from 240 to 280 pages for one shilling (such volume containing as much matter as an ordinary octavo of 300 pages); and to bring out such a volume every Saturday.

Mr Knight enters into calculations which we have not room to give, and makes the following proposal:—

That Charles Knight and Co. shall publish, at their own risk, a collection of books, the greater part original, which may ultimately extend to 150 or 200 volumes; that each work should be complete in itself, but be known as one of a series, under some such neutral title as "Knight's Weekly Volume;" that this statement of the origin and general plan of the undertaking should be circulated amongst those likely to give such a project their support, and that they be requested to state what aggregate number of volumes they would be likely to take; making their selection from time to time, after inspection of the works as they come out. The purchase of fifty-two assorted volumes would be equivalent to a yearly subscription for one set. By some such arrangement the publishers would receive an assurance that might warrant them in venturing upon so large an enterprise; whilst those who are anxiously looking to this plan of popular improvement would accomplish their object without any heavy responsibility.

Mr Knight looks, however, and with good reason, more to the masses themselves, than to their well-wishers:—

Whatever exertions (he remarks) may be made by those of great influence, who in such a matter can direct the opinions of large bodies of the people dependent upon, or connected with them, I rely mainly upon the desire of the people themselves to have access to books pre-eminently cheap, and promising to be entertaining as well as useful. It is not to be expected that many persons of limited means will individually expend a shilling a week in the purchase of any books; but the principle of association might be most beneficially employed in forming libraries for all readers. The middle classes have their Book societies in every town and village; and, by an annual subscription of one guinea, thousands of individuals, co-operating to the extent of twenty or thirty in one society, have a command over the perusal, in regular circulation, of the most attractive publications of the literature of the day. Why should not this principle be applied to the cottage inhabitants of a village, the workmen in a factory, the assistants in warehouses and retail establishments, even to the servants in large families? Why should not twenty persons, subscribing each a shilling a quarter, have the means of purchasing "Knight's Weekly Volume," and other inviting books, circulating them from house to house, week by week, and by disposing of them, if they please, amongst themselves at the year's end, increasing their funds for more extensive purchases? By the encouragement of such a plan, there is hardly any person of influence who could not aid the project now detailed." It is contemplated to try the experiment in the quarter ending Michaelmas, 1844, and to issue the first volume on the 29th of June. The works to be issued are:—"William Caxton, the first English Printer;" "The Englishwoman in Egypt," by Miss Lane (two vols); "The Factories of Great Britain;" Lamb's "Tales from Shakespeare" (three vols); "The Chinese" (three vols); "Plutarch's Lives of Alexander and Julius Caesar;" and "The History of Literature and Learning in England" (two vols). It is a brave and worthy speculation, and we should regret to see it fail.—*Gateshead Observer.*

THE ATMOSPHERIC RAILWAY.—On Thursday, a committee of the House of Commons (Lord Howick in the chair) decided upon granting the Croydon Company's branch railway to Epsom, and on rejecting that of the rival company, the South-western. The great characteristic of this protracted contest is, that the Croydon company propose to lay down a line from Epsom to London (length of 21 miles) on the atmospheric system.

Literature.

Notices of the State of Religion in Geneva and Belgium. By H. HEUGH, D.D., of Glasgow. M'Lehose, Glasgow; Jackson and Walford, London.

DR HEUGH has here supplied just such a book as it has often been our desire to see. Nothing is more annoying than constant allusions to any subject of which we are mainly ignorant; and with regard to the religious state of Geneva, we have been often thus mortified, without being much amended. We have been much better informed with regard to the history of Rousseau, Voltaire, and Gibbon, the satanic triumvirate who have conferred an unenviable immortality on the unequalled lake on the shores of which they resided, than with regard to the religious posture of affairs in that nature-distinguished district. Yet not only can Geneva boast of having given birth to a crowd of eminent men, unequalled by any town of the same capacity; but to every Christian it stands associated with names almost the first in genius and devotedness to Christ and to his cause. We have read, therefore, Dr Heugh's clear and compact narrative with uncommon interest, which we shall be glad if our extracts shall enable our readers to partake with us.

In the first chapter our author very modestly states the design of his pages:—

"They do not aspire to be a history, to present even an historical outline of the political or religious vicissitudes of Geneva. * * * They claim only to be what I have designated them, *Notices of the condition of Geneva*, chiefly in regard to religion; and to education, and civil and ecclesiastical polity, as connected with religion."—p. 3.

The work commences with a graphic view of the town, and a brief epitome of the institutions of Geneva. Dr Heugh tells us that the ecclesiastical constitution is a kind of established Presbyterianism, the government of the church being vested in "the venerable company of pastors"—the lower house, and "the consistory," an almost secular body—the upper and superior house. There is also a Roman catholic establishment.

After informing us that Geneva has five established churches supplied by the pastors in rotation, our author gives the following account of religious services:—

"In the service in which there is a sermon, worship begins by singing a portion of a psalm; then a student of divinity reads a part of the scriptures and the decalogue; afterwards the minister reads the prayer, which is a confession of sin—reads the psalm to be sung, and after praise, again prays and preaches. The service is then concluded with another prayer, which is read, with praise, and with the benediction, which is also read. In the afternoon, when there is a sermon, the services are similar; when the catechism takes the place of a sermon, a portion of it is explained, and the scholars in the first four classes of the college are examined. Devotional services with similar formality are observed at these times."—p. 13.

Again a little after:—

"The Lord's supper is dispensed four times a year—namely, on the sabbaths after Christmas, the passover, the ascension, and on a sabbath about the beginning of September. The holidays referred to are appointed to be kept, and special services are enjoined, corresponding with the events which they commemorate. There is a preparatory service, including a sermon on the Saturday before the communion. The elements are given to the communicants standing—the men first, and then the females, coming up to the officiating minister, receiving them from his hands, and immediately retiring—a mode of celebrating the sacred supper, in my view, anything but reverent in external appearance, very little suited to promote composure of spirit in the ambulating company of communicants, and ill-fitted to represent and to realise that union and fellowship in Christ which this holy ordinance is intended to set forth. During prayer the congregation stand, and sit during praise. In the latter service the organ is used."—p. 15.

Dr Heugh speaks highly (from report) of the educational arrangements of Geneva, which are extensive; and mentions the opinion of Lord Brougham, in 1828, that the canton Vaud, of which Lausanne is the capital, was one of the most generally educated districts in Europe.

The second chapter refers to "the decline of religion in Geneva." Four causes for this decline are assigned:—1. The identification of the church with republic. 2. The little part which private members take in church affairs. 3. The alliance of the church with the state; and 4. The intolerance of the Genevese church. This leads the author to speak of the murder of Servitius, which he somewhat palliates (to our regret), by pleading the ill-informed spirit of the times. In enumerating other changes which have led to this decline—

"Suffice it to say, that the barriers which Calvin raised to prevent the inroads of novel and false doctrines, have long since been broken down—subscription to a public confession of faith dispersed with—the catechism changed—the translation of the bible revised—and the tone of public instruction lowered, until even the doctrines of original sin, of the atonement, and of the influence of divine grace, are barely recognised—the consubstantiality of the Son with the Father denied—and, for the most part, the high and holy principles of the gospel superseded by a barren system of ethics."—p. 55.

We have seldom read anything more interesting than the fourth and fifth chapters on "The revival of religion in Geneva." They bring before us the names of Count Zinzendorf, Mr Haldane, Drs

Malan, Gausson, and D'Aubigné. Of the latter gentleman we have the following account:—

"Dr Merle D'Aubigné had officiated for some years as a protestant pastor in Brussels, and was chaplain to the King of Holland in that city. The revolution in that country, which terminated in the separation of Belgium from Holland, occurred the year before. Dr M. D'A. was placed in the midst of the sanguinary contest which raged in Brussels for a few days; and, in a tract recently published, he describes, with his accustomed effect, the spectacle he witnessed, and in the midst of which he was wonderfully preserved. When the King of Holland lost Belgium, the services of Dr M. D'A. in Brussels were no longer wanted. He returned to his native Geneva, not knowing the things which should befall him there; his previous studies (since that period so productive of instruction and delight to multitudes) had been greatly versant with ecclesiastical research; and thus, both as to place, character, and requirements, he was prepared by God for the office he consented to accept in the new Genevese institution, and which, with so much honour to himself and advantage to his pupils, he continues, and, I trust, shall long continue to hold—professor of ecclesiastical history and homiletics."

The account which Dr Heugh gives of Belgium is more concise. But a strong case is made out, entitling it to the favourable consideration of those Christians who, sending the gospel to remote shores, have hitherto neglected so near a neighbour.

The seventh chapter shows the respected author to be a strong and uncompromising enemy to ecclesiastical establishments. (Indeed the whole work is full of such illustrations.) It is entitled—"Facts and Opinions in Geneva and its vicinity, respecting the Separation of Church and State." A view is given of the consistent opinions of Dr Malan, Dr Gausson, Dr D'Aubigné, and M. Vinet on this subject. Dr Heugh says—

"I cannot help congratulating Dr Merle D'Aubigné that his great work was so far in progress ere his tracts appeared, and that he has gained the ear and the affections of all parties in this country before he opposed the views—shall I say, shocked the feelings—of one portion of them, by appearing on what they deem the wrong side. The man has been praised before he was fully known; and, I doubt not, will henceforth be considered as rather a doubtful and dangerous authority by not a few, who heretofore have been accustomed very confidently to appeal to him."—p. 220.

Great praise is justly awarded to the work of M. Vinet, which we had the pleasure of recently reviewing. Though we do not exactly agree with Dr Heugh, in thinking it to resemble the prose of Milton; yet we must avow our conviction that the English language has no work comparable to it as an argumentative production on the same subject.

We regret that our limits do not allow of larger extracts than we have been able to give, from this valuable little work. Dr Heugh has conferred a real service on the public in subjecting it to the press, and when it shall be known, we are sure that it will be read with avidity. It is, in external, an elegant volume, doing great credit to Mr M'Lehose's press. In this respect it is like all the works we have seen as issued from that publisher's establishment.

Appeal from the Church to the Hopeful, but Non-professing Hearer. With suitable Reflections for Professing Christians. By the Rev. H. EDWARDS, Ph.D., D.D. Dyer, London. Pp. 160.

The subject of this book is well chosen, and its execution is of a superior order. We earnestly wish it may be largely circulated.

A Series of Discourses on the Proper Deity of the Son of God and the Primary Design of his Mission. By the Rev. T. EAST, of Birmingham. London: C. A. Bartlett, 66, Paternoster row. pp. 440.

This is a work which, for the most part, is adapted to answer the design for which it was written. It aims at a popular view of a much-contested subject (a subject upon which we do not, as journalists, pronounce an opinion)—a task of no mean difficulty. Its popular cast, however, is not of the kind too current in the present day. Its coin is not merely glittering and bright, but contains a goodly share of sterling metal. It is weighty in scripture citations, forcible argumentation, pertinent illustration. The style is lucid, and the matter occasionally original.

The titles of these discourses are substantially as follows:—1. Introductory—on the Person of Jesus Christ—2. On the important Inquiry, whether Jesus Christ be a mere man, or unites in his Person the Divine with the Human Nature—3. Examination of the Popular Objections against the Deity of Christ—4. The Testimony of the Prophets considered—5. The Testimony of John the Baptist and the Evangelists—6. The Testimony of Jesus Christ himself—7. The Testimony of the Apostles—8. The Witnesses who testified of Christ raised the Question of his Divinity; the bearing of this Fact on the Settlement of the Controversy—9. The Mission of Jesus Christ, if a mere Man, defeated; the grand Design of Jehovah respecting Idolatry—10. The Example of Jesus Christ defective and pernicious, if only a frail Human Being—11. The religious Character and Habits of Unitarians a conclusive Evidence against the Scriptural Origin of their Theory of Belief—12. On the degenerating Tendency of Unitarianism.

We particularly recommend to confine perusal to the sixth, eighth, and ninth discourses—the two former of which are well put and eloquently written, the latter contains much original matter. In respect to the two last sermons of this volume, although containing some important facts, yet they occupy regions which appear to us out of the legitimate reach of grave and rigid controversy. The nearer we keep to Scripture and its collateral arguments on this great question, the better. To exasperate is not to conquer. Nor must we overlook an illustration or two (see note, p. 135) pursued to an extent which can only serve to lessen the intrinsic dignity of the

great subject in hand. Occasionally we perceive also a too frequent use of the *ego et meus*. With these exceptions we cordially recommend this work as a valuable addition to our standard works of controversial theology.

The Monastic and Manufacturing Systems. By ANGLICAN CATHOLICUS. Reprinted from the *Morning Post*. Painter, Strand, 1843. pp. 39.

THERE are no bounds to human credulity. This pamphlet is intended to show that a nation will be happy in proportion as monasteries take the place of manufactories. "The first stroke," says the author, "of the trowel on the first religious house that is erected at Manchester will sound as the knell of anarchy; the first flutter of mercy's white garment in the streets of Birmingham, will scare away the spirit of revolution." We answer in one word—SPAIN!! and conclude by one remark—They who choose to believe it, may!

Religious Intelligence.

MANCHESTER SQUARE.—On Tuesday evening last, a social tea meeting was held by the friends connected with Blandford Street chapel, Manchester square, when the pastor, Mr W. B. Bowes, was presented with a splendid table clock, in a Spanish mahogany frame, and massive bracket *en suite*, inlaid with an appropriate inscription. Messrs Lawrence, Broad, Daniell, and Beazley, members of the church, delivered affectionate and suitable addresses, which were very warmly acknowledged by their esteemed minister, who was sensibly affected by so unexpected and useful a donation.

SHREWSBURY.—Mr J. B. Pike, of Newbury, has been invited to supply the pulpit of the first Baptist church, Shrewsbury, vacant by the resignation of Mr Kent.

NEW BAPTIST CHAPEL, PLYMOUTH.—The ceremony of laying the foundation stone of a baptist chapel, to be erected at the back of George's street, Plymouth, took place on Wednesday last. An appropriate and beautiful prayer from Mr S. Nicholson commenced the proceedings, after which a hymn of praise was sung, in which the assembled multitude joined. Mr Nicholson then called upon W. France, Esq., to superintend the laying of the stone, which was lowered down to its proper position with the usual ceremonies. A powerful address was then delivered by Mr S. Nicholson, setting forth the peculiar tenets that would be preached within the walls which, with the blessing of God, were about to be erected.

NEW CHAPEL IN BIRMINGHAM.—On Wednesday, May 1st, the foundation stone of a new independent chapel, to be called Highbury chapel, was laid on a piece of freehold land in Graham street, Birmingham, by Mr James Alsop. He was aided in the services connected with the interesting ceremony by Mr J. A. James, Mr B. Brook, Mr Thomas Swan, and Mr J. Jones, of Lady Huntingdon's chapel. Mr James delivered an eloquent address on the principles of dissent, and the doctrines taught in a congregational place of worship; he also adverted to the relation which exists between pastor and people, the influence which this unity exercises on both, and congratulated all present on the good work they had that day commenced. At the conclusion of the proceedings in Graham street, the company adjourned to Livery street chapel, where about four hundred members of the congregation, and their friends, partook of tea, which had been kindly prepared by twenty ladies at their own expense. After tea the meeting was again addressed by Messrs J. A. James, B. Brook, Baker, R. Wallace of the Free church of Scotland, and one of the students of Springhill college; and in the course of the evening Mr Alsop, who is to be the officiating pastor of Highbury chapel, stated the reasons which had led to the selection of the present site in Graham street. The proceedings were altogether of a very pleasing and encouraging character.

SHETLAND.—An esteemed correspondent sends us the following:—"The congregational chapel in Sulam, parish of North Main, Shetland, was re-built and enlarged about two years ago. The church consists of fifty-four members, and the congregation is usually about 200. Mr John Nicholson, the present worthy pastor of the church, has laboured amongst them for two years. The Lord has blessed his labours, so that during that time both the church and congregation have been considerably increased; and there is a pleasing prospect of a still further increase. Besides the stated services to the church on the Sabbath day, Mr Nicholson instructs two Bible classes; and, during the week, he has abundant employment in visiting the sick, and in attending to four preaching stations at considerable distances. The people of Sulam are very poor, and their houses, or rather huts, are of the meanest description, none of them being capable of affording Mr Nicholson the humble accommodation which he would be satisfied with; he is, therefore, obliged to reside in the parish of Delting, distant from the chapel about three miles. The road, for two miles of this distance, if road it can be called, through moss and muir, is very bad; the other mile is an arm of the sea, over which Mr Nicholson has to be brought and returned in a boat by some of his people on the Sabbath day; and on other occasions, when he wishes to visit them, he has to stand at the side of the water until he is noticed, and a boat brought for him from the opposite shore. The great loss of time, and the hindrance, in many ways, to the usefulness of the pastor of this church by such a state of things, besides the injury to his health by exposure to wet and cold, have led several friends of the Congregational Union, in Dundee, to conclude that an effort should be immediately made to raise a sufficient sum for the erection of a house for the use of the pastor of the church in Sulam, near to the

chapel; and they respectfully invite the brethren in Edinburgh and Glasgow to aid in accomplishing this desirable object. It is calculated that a house, with sufficient accommodation, could not be finished at a less cost than £100. The friends of the cause in Shetland cannot be expected to raise much, if any, of this sum in money; but it is likely they would readily supply labour to the extent of about £20. Mr Nicholson is very desirous that this object should be accomplished, as it would tend to give a permanence to the church in Sulam; and he proposes that the money which may be raised for the purpose be lodged in the hands of the treasurer of the Congregational Union for Scotland, and be retained by him until, by a proper legal instrument, the proposed house is secured for the benefit of the church."

SUMMERTOWN.—The new chapel erected at Summertown, in the immediate vicinity of Oxford, for the congregation of Mr D. W. Evans, was opened for divine worship, on Thursday last (May 23), when the overflowing congregations assembled were greatly delighted with two excellent discourses from Mr H. B. Bulteel, M.A., late fellow of Exeter College, Oxford, and Mr O. Winalow, M.A., of Leamington. Messrs Neale, of Headington, Best, of Charlton, Eden, of Chadlington, and other ministers, assisted in conducting the services. A very liberal collection was made at the close of each service.

POCKLINGTON.—Mr George Hillyard, late of Brigstock, Northamptonshire, has received and accepted a pressing invitation from the members of the church assembling in Ebenezer chapel, Pocklington, to become their pastor, and will enter upon his ministerial duties on the 26th inst.

ORDINATION NEAR BRISTOL.—On Wednesday, May 16th, Mr R. Thatcher was publicly ordained to the pastoral office over the congregational church assembling in Zion chapel, Coalpit heath, near Bristol. Mr Thomas Haynes, of Bristol, delivered the introductory discourse, Mr W. Lucy gave the charge, and Mr John Jack addressed the sermon to the people. Several other ministers were also engaged. This is one of the several flourishing and interesting stations of the Bristol Itinerant Society, whose usefulness in the villages around is very apparent, and one of the fruits of whose honoured labours is the work of preparation for the stated ministry by the devout services of evangelists, and the self-denying toils of Sabbath-school teachers.

BIRTHS.

May 20th, the wife of Mr JOHN LEE, of Great George street, Bermondsey, of a daughter.
May 21, at Meridian place, Clifton, Mrs ROBERT LEONARD, jun., of a daughter.
May 22, at Newton-le-Willows, the wife of Mr ROBERT MASSIE, independent minister, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

May 21, at Harvey Lane chapel, Leicester, by the pastor, Mr J. P. Murrell, Mr WILLIAM ELWORTH, to Miss ELIZA CLARK, both of that town.
May 21, at the independent chapel, Wells, Mr FRANCIS BEACHAM, minister of the gospel, of that city, to MARY, eldest daughter of the late Mr T. CHASE, formerly of Knap Hill house, near Wells.
May 21, at the general baptist chapel, Hinkley, by Mr W. Salt, Mr THOMAS SMITH, minister of the above chapel, to SARAH, daughter of Mr J. TAYLOR, the retired minister of the same place.
May 22, at Caroline Street chapel, Longton, Potteries, by the pastor, Mr S. Jones, by special license of the registrar, Mr JOSEPH KNIGHT, of Golden Hill, Penton, to Miss LOWE, eldest daughter of Mr William Lowe, Sutherland road, Longton.
May 22, at East Parade chapel, Leeds, by Mr Andrew Reed, B.A., of Norwich, CHARLES, second son of Dr Andrew REED, of London, to MARGARET, youngest daughter of Edward BAINES, Esq., of Leeds.
May 23, at the tabernacle, Milford, by Mr William Warlow, Mr REES, home missionary, to Miss JANE ROBIN, both of Little Haven.
May 23, at St Paul's church, Bristol, Mr WILLIAM DOWDING, clothier, of Westbury, Wilts, to SELINA FLOOD, youngest daughter of William WOODMAN, Esq., of Westbury, late of Bristol.
May 23, at Hope chapel, Liverpool street, Salford, Manchester, by Mr D. E. Ford, Mr NUNNLEY, of Boston, to ELIZABETH MARY, eldest daughter of Mr TINKLEY, of the former place.
May 23, at Chapel Street chapel, Salford, by Mr J. W. Massie, the pastor, Mr DANIEL LANCASTER BEDDOME, to MARGARET, eldest daughter of Samuel Davidson DEWHURST, Esq., all of Broughton.
May 26, at Rehoboth chapel, Shadwell, by Mr S. Milner, the pastor, Mr EDWARD DEXTER, to MARY ANN MERRY, both of Broad street, Ratcliff.

DEATHS.

May 10, at the house of her brother, Mr Brodie, Chenies lodge, Bucks, ANN, wife of Mr THOS DAVIS, dissenting minister, at Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, aged 37. She has left five children under eight years of age.
May 14, at Southover Lewes, THOMAS REED, aged 85, upwards of fifty years a consistent and honourable member of the baptist church in that town.
May 18, at Colchester, after an illness of fourteen days, MARIA, youngest daughter of the late Samuel DANIEL, Esq.
May 18, at Ballyshannon, CON O'DONNELL, Esq., the lineal descendant of Hugh Roe O'Donel, earl of Tyrconnell, the chieftain of former days.
May 21, at Lenton, aged 45 years, Mr WILLIAM ELLIOTT, of Nottingham, of the firm of Mills and Elliott, cotton merchants.
May 22, WILLIAM MILNES, aged 104 years, the oldest pauper on the barony roll, and pensioner on the Old Man's Friend Society, Glasgow, died in that institution. The deceased was brother to Andrew, who is still alive and hearty in the Old Man's asylum. He is in his 103rd year.
May 22, at his brother's house in Lower Grosvenor street, the Hon. CHARLES STUART WORTLEY, aged 42.
May 24, at Thames Ditton, Surrey, MARY, forty-eight years the beloved wife of Mr James CHURCHILL, dissenting minister, in her 80th year. After a few days' illness, she departed full of confidence in the merits of the Redeemer.
May 25, at Sheerness, of consumption, RICHARD JOHN, the eldest son of Mr Richard BRIGHTMAN, aged 14 years.
May 26, at Frome, triumphantly in the faith and hope of the gospel, in the 23rd year of his age, Mr ISAAC BENJAMIN JONES, only son of Mr John Jones, independent minister, of Frome.

Trade and Commerce.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, May 24.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

BAKE, THOMAS, Chorlton-upon-Medlock, Lancashire, brewer.

BANKRUPTS.

DAVISON, THOMAS, Stockton-upon-Tees, Durham, grocer: June 7, July 24: solicitors, Mr J. Nixon, 4, Symond's inn, London, and Mr W. Brighal, Durham.
JOHNSON, JAMES CRAWFORD, and CHAPMAN, WILLIAM, Manchester, manufacturing chemists, June 4, 26: solicitors, Messrs Hall and Mourilyan, 2, Verulam buildings, Gray's inn, London, and Mr Leeming, Manchester.
MARTIN, JOSEPH WHITE, Newmarket, Suffolk, chemist, June 4, July 5: solicitors, Mr Marriott, Colchester, and Messrs Jones and Co., 1, John street, Bedford row, London.
PARSON, WILLIAM, Southampton, grocer, May 29, July 3: solicitors, Messrs Walker and Co., Southampton street, Bloomsbury, London.
PIKE, JAMES MILTON, 5, Great Bath street, Cold Bath square, victualer, June 4, July 4: solicitor, Mr Stuart, New inn.
PIRT, JOHN, London, Worcestershire, innkeeper, June 4, July 5: solicitors, Messrs Bird and Co., Upton-on-Severn, and Mr Bloxham, Birmingham.
SMITH, JOHN, Bacup and Manchester, calico printer, June 4, July 1: solicitors, Messrs Atkinson and Saunders, Manchester, and Messrs Makinson and Sanders, Temple, London.
WEBB, BLOOMFIELD, High street, Southwark, cheesemonger, May 31, July 5: solicitors, Messrs Brown and Co., Commercial chambers, Mincing lane.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

BANNERMAN, JENNER, and Co., Glasgow and Manchester, merchants, May 28, June 18.
KING, WILLIAM, Glasgow, victualer, May 30, June 20.
M'GREGOR, ANDREW, Glasgow, baker, May 30, June 20.
PARK, ROBERT, East Kilbride, Lanarkshire, innkeeper, May 29, June 19.

DIVIDENDS.

T. Cheetham, sen., Stockport, surgeon; first div. of 6s. 2d. in the pound, May 28, and any following Tuesday—W. Taylor, Great Winchester street, merchant; first div. of 9s. in the pound, any Wednesday—J. Turner, Grange place, Hoxton, cabinet maker; first div. of 5s. 6d. in the pound, any Wednesday—H. Prior, Sise lane, City, stationer; second div. of 1s. 4d. in the pound, any Wednesday—W. Chamberlain, Peckham, linen draper; first div. of 6s. 6d. in the pound, any Wednesday—I. Worthington, Manchester, draper; third div. of 1s. 9d. in the pound, any Wednesday—F. B. Courtenay, 42, Great Marlborough street, bookseller; first div. of 3s. 3d. in the pound, any Wednesday—W. Stone, Birmingham, printer; first div. of 2s. 7d. in the pound, any Thursday—R. J., and J. Potter, Manchester, cotton spinners; first div. of 2s. 6d. in the pound, June 11, or any following Tuesday—W. Caton, Preston, ironmonger; second div. of 1s. 2d. in the pound, June 4, or any following Tuesday—F. Seddon, Middle Hulton, Lancashire, coal dealer; a div. of 3s. 9d. and 31-38ths of a penny in the pound, May 28, and every following Tuesday—E. Arrowsmith, Burnley, Lancashire, mercer; first div. of 5s. in the pound, May 28, and every following Tuesday.

Tuesday, May 28.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act of 6 and 7 William IV., cap. 85:—

The baptist meeting house, Chesterton, Cambridge.
Capel Isaac chapel, Llanfair, Montgomeryshire.
The Wesleyan methodist meeting house, Nelson, Cornwall.

BANKRUPTS.

BARNARD, JACOB, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, clothes dealer, June 13, July 9: solicitors, Messrs B. and J. B. Winterbottom, Cheltenham, and Mr T. Dix, Bristol.
BERWICK, JOHN, Windhill, Yorkshire, worsted stuff manufacturer, June 11, July 9: solicitors, Messrs Few and Co., Henrietta street, London, Messrs Weatherhead and Burr, Bingley, and Mr Charles Naylor, Leeds.
BRAND, THOMAS, Stamford street, Blackfriars, Surrey, livery stable-keeper, June 11, July 9: solicitor, Mr John Harman, 6, Earl street, Blackfriars.
FLIGHT, EDWARD GILL, 1, Adam street, Adelphi, Westminster, publisher, and of Bridport, Dorsetshire, money scrivener, June 4, July 9: solicitors, Messrs Turner and Hensman, Basing lane, Chesham.
KEARSLY, THOMAS, and WATT, THOMAS, Runcorn, Cheshire, bone merchants, June 8, July 1: solicitors, Mr Alexander Harris Birmingham; and Mr W. H. Smith, Bedford row, London.
LOUIS, EDWARD, 27, Gerard street, Soho, wholesale perfumer, June 6, July 11: solicitors, Messrs Crosby and Compton, Church court.
MONK, WILLIAM, jun., Nottingham, currier, June 12, July 4: solicitors, Mr Parsons, Nottingham; and Messrs Spurrier and Chaplin, Birmingham.
OXLEY, EDWARD, jun., King's Lynn, Norfolk, hatter, June 8, July 9: solicitors, Mr T. H. Dixon, 3, New Bowell court, Carey street; and Mr Ransom, Sudbury.
SIGON, JOHN, Brighton, dealer in toys, June 11, July 10: solicitors, Messrs Rickards and Walker, Lincoln's inn fields.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.

WHITE and ALEXANDER, Greenock, rice millers, June 4, 25.

DIVIDENDS.

A. Ingham, div. of 1s. in the pound: June 3, or any following Monday—W. Robinson, Liverpool, dealer in glass; second div. of 5d. in the pound, May 30, or any following Thursday—T. and A. Templeton, Congleton, Cheshire, silk manufacturers; div. of 1s. 3d. in the pound, June 1, and following Saturdays—T. Wooster and T. Wooster, jun., Coal Exchange, City, coal factors; third div. of 11d. in the pound, on any Wednesday—G. Whitehead, 76, Fleet street, City, printer; first div. of 1s. 6d. in the pound, on any Wednesday—A. G. W. Huddell and Co., 6, Henrietta street, Covent garden, bankers; first, second, and third divs of 7s. in the pound, on any Wednesday—H. E. Roberts, Broad street buildings, merchant; third div. of 11d. in the pound, on any Wednesday—J. P. Davies, now or late of 59, Davies street, Berkeley square, apothecary; first div. of 30s. in the pound, May 29, and three following Wednesdays.

BRITISH FUNDS.

The market, both for English and foreign stocks, shows much firmness, again, at the present moment; but it is foreseen that prices will go lower, as the broker acting for the Savings Banks Commissioners is gradually lessening his purchases.

	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per cent. Consols	99½	99½	99½	99½	99½	99½
Ditto for Account	99½	99½	99½	99½	99½	99½
3 per cents Reduced	98½	98½	98½	98½	98½	98½
3 per cts. Reduced	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
New 3 per cent.	102½	102½	102½	102½	102½	102½
Long Annuities	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½
Bank Stock	197	196	197	198	197	197
India Stock	287	286	286	285	—	285
Exchequer Bills	74pm	72pm	72pm	74pm	72pm	72pm
India Bonds	92pm	—	92pm	—	—	—

FOREIGN FUNDS.

Austrian	114	Mexican	35½
Belgian	103½	Peruvian	29
Brazilian	81	Portuguese 5 per cents	46½
Buenos Ayres	38	Ditto 3 per cents	—
Columbian	14	Russian	117½
Danish	98	Spanish Active	34½
Dutch 2 per cents	61	Ditto Passive	6
Ditto 5 per cents	100½	Ditto Deferred	14

RAILWAY SHARES.

Birmingham and Derby	61	London and Brighton	46
Birmingham & Gloucester	92	London & Croydon/Trunk	19
Blackwall	7	London and Greenwich	6½
Bristol and Exeter	80	Ditto New	—
Cheltenham & Gt. Western	—	Manchester & Birm.	57
Eastern Counties	114	Manchester and Leeds	106
Edinburgh and Glasgow	66	Midland Counties	58
Great North of England	99	Ditto Quarter Shares	23
Great Western	118	North Midland	58
Ditto Half	75	Ditto New	41
Ditto Fifths	31	South Eastern and Dover	37
London and Birmingham	225	South Western	85½
Ditto Quarter Shares	26	Ditto New	—

MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, May 27.

There was a good show of wheat from the near counties, and a foreign arrival in course of last week of 20,000 qrs; the trade was a very slow one, and only the selected samples obtained last week's currency. Other qualities could only be got off by submitting to some decline in price, and a good deal was unsold. In foreign very little doing. Some cargoes are pressed to sale out of ship, either duty-paid or in bond.

There is very little foreign barley offering for sale; prices are firmly supported.

Oats have been held firmly at full prices; and light Irish white, and all sorts of black, are 6d. dearer.

Beans 1s., grey peas 2s. higher. No white English peas at market.

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Wheat, Red New	45	52	Malt, Ordinary	49	52
White	45	52	Pale	54	58
Barley	45	52	Rye	34	37
Flour, per sack	39	50	Peas, Hog	30	33
Malting	30	33	Maple	30	32
			Boilers	32	34
			Beans, Ticks	29	33

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Beans, Pigeon	32	34	Wheat	17s.	0d.
Harrow	27	28	Barley	6	0
Oats, Feed	18	21	Oats	6	0
Poland	22	23	Rye	10	6
Potato	20	23	Beans	10	6
			Peas	10	6

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR MAY 24.

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Wheat	55s.	10d.	Wheat	55s.	4d.
Barley	31	1	Barley	32	1
Oats	21	0	Oats	20	4
Rye	31	2	Rye	31	7
Beans	33	3	Beans	31	11
Peas	31	8	Peas	31	7

SEEDS.

There was not much passing in the seed market; some speculative inquiry was experienced for clover, but the terms asked checked business. The late dry weather is believed to have done injury to all sorts of seeds, and the prices of most articles have consequently tended upwards.

	per qr		per cwt.
Linseed	54s. to 60s.	English, red	52s. to 60
English, sowing	54s. to 60s.	White	53
Baltic, crushing	40	Flemish, pale	48
Ditto, crushing	40	Ditto, fine	56
Medit. & Odessa	41	New Hamb., red	45
Hempseed, small	35	Ditto, fine	56
Large	35	Old Hamb., red	38
Canary, new	52	Ditto, fine	54
Extra	55	French, red	46
Caraway, old	57	Ditto, white	15
New	60	Coriander	15
Rapeseed, English	—	Old	—
Mustard	per bushel	Rapeseed	per last
Brown, new	12	English, new	26s. to 28s.
White	8	Linseed cakes	—
Trefoil	23	English	9s. 10s. to 10s. 10s.
Old	12	Foreign	5s. to 6s. 10s.
Tares, new	4	Rapeseed cakes	4s. 15s. to 5s. 0s.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, May 27.

The sale of new Irish butter was difficult. There was a little Cook sold at 81s., and Waterford at 78s. to 79s. per cwt, mostly in a retail way. For old there was little inquiry, and the prices remain nominal. Foreign, being in larger supply, sold slowly—Friesland, Kiel, and Holland, at 74s. to 76s. for best, and in proportion for the inferior qualities. For singed bacon there was no better demand, and but a limited business done, chiefly owing to the unreasonable weather. Prices ruled at 42s. to 45s., as in quality and weight, landed and on board. Bale and tierce middles were in slow demand, and rather lower in value. Hams more in request, at 55s. to 60s. per cwt. Lard dull, inclining down in value.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, May 27.

The hop is said to be greatly on the increase. They have attacked the plants throughout the grounds, and are not confined to the outside or sheltered situations, as in some years is the case. As many as forty to fifty on a leaf are to be found, with a great deal of deposit. The market is in a very firm, healthy state.

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, May 27.

The beef trade was in a very sluggish state, and in most instances the currencies were 2d. per 8lbs. beneath those obtained on this day so night, at which a good clearance was effected. The supply of sheep was good. Prime old Downs sold readily at prices about equal to those of last week, or from 3s. 10d. to 4s. per 8lbs.; but the value of all other breeds was with difficulty supported. Calves were in moderate supply and heavy demand, while the rates had a downward tendency. In pigs comparatively little was doing, on earlier terms.

	Beef	Sheep	Calves	Pigs
Friday	55s.	12s. 50	35s.	36s.
Monday	55s.	12s. 50	35s.	36s.

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

	Beef	Sheep	Calves	Pigs
Friday	55s.	12s. 50	35s.	36s.
Monday	55s.	12s. 50	35s.	36s.

NEWGATS AND LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, May 27.

NEWCASTLE AND LONDON SMALL MARKETS, Monday, May 27.					
Per 8lbs. by the carcass.					
Superior Beef	3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.	Inf. Mutton	2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d.		
Middle do	3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.	Mid. ditto	2s. 8d. to 3s. 2d.		
Prime large	3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.	Prime ditto	3s. 6d. to 3s. 10d.		
Prime small	3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.	Veal	3s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.		
Large Pork	3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.	Small Pork	3s. 4d. to 4s. 2d.		
Lambs, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.					

COTTON.

A dull feeling has prevailed in the cotton market during all the past week. The trade buy very moderately and with caution; and, there being little speculation going on, prices have, under this influence, declined fully 6d. below the quotations of this day week for American, and 9d. upon Surats and Egyptian. The total sales this week are 31,000 bags; of which there has been taken for speculation 500 bags of American and 1000 Surats, and for export 1000 American and 300 Surats. The prices declared by the committee of brokers, for fair cotton, are, Bowed 5d., Middle 5 1/2d., and Orleans 5 1/4d.

WOOL.

There is not much doing in the wool market, although there is a good deal of inquiry for some of the better qualities.

HAY, CATTLE FEED.		New load of 36 trusses.	
Coarse Meadow ..	50s. to 60s.	New Clover Hay ..	65s. to 105s.
New ditto	— .. —	Old ditto	— .. —
Useful Old ditto ..	63 .. 68	Oat Straw	26 .. 28
Fine Upland ditto	70 .. 73	Wheat Straw	28 .. 30

COAL EXCHANGE, May 27.

Stewart's, 32s. 6d.; Hetton's, 22s. 3d.; Braddell's Hetton's, 22s. 6d. Ships arrived this week, 35.

GROCERIES, TUESDAY, MAY 28.

There were not any public sales of colonial produce, with the exception of 32 bags of cochineal, black Mexican, of ordinary to middling quality, which sold at 5s. to 5s. 4d. per lb., being rather lower, and 6 chests of Bengal indigo of inferior quality, which sold at 2s. 6d. to 3s. 2d. per lb.

OIL.—150 tons southern offered in auction, partly sold at £27 to £30 per ton.

TEA.—10,000 packages are advertised for sale on the 4th of June. The market is flat, and there is but little business doing.

Advertisements.

EDUCATION.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

THE COMMITTEE of the BRITISH and FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY beg to inform the Managers of all Schools for the Poor, whether Day or Sunday Schools, which have been opened since Jan. 1, 1843, that the sum of £5000 has been appropriated for the purpose of gratuitously supplying such Schools with copies of the Holy Scriptures.

Applications may be addressed forthwith to the Committee, at the Society's House, No. 10, Earl Street, Blackfriars. Parties making application will be furnished with the necessary information; together with a Schedule of Inquiries to be answered before the Grant can be made.

A. BRANDRAM, } Secretaries.
G. BROWNE, }

Bible Society House, May 21, 1844.

On the 31st of May, price 2s. 6d.,

THE ECLECTIC REVIEW for JUNE.

CONTENTS.

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3. Commentaries on the Epistle to the Romans.
4. Memoir of Rev. Greville Ewing.
5. Miller's Old Red Sandstone.
6. Godley's Letters from America.
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